

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 61

Section 1

September 11, 1924

Grain Rates

Rates on grain, hay and straw and relative articles taking the same rates from Oklahoma to destinations in Texas were found unreasonable and unduly prejudicial to Oklahoma and Oklahoma shippers and unduly preferential of Texas and Texas shippers in a recommendation to the Interstate Commerce Commission made September 10 by Examiner John B. Keeler. Rates on grain and grain products in carloads from points in the Panhandle of Texas and eastern New Mexico to Kansas City, Kan., and Kansas City, Mo., were found unreasonable and the relationship between them and the rates on the same commodities from the same points of origin to Shreveport, La., and points in Texas were found unduly prejudicial to Kansas City and unduly preferential to Shreveport and points in Texas. (Press, Sept. 11.)

Grain Shipments

The Shipping Board yesterday authorized assignment of additional steamers to assist in the movement of grain and other cargo from Gulf ports to Europe during the next month or six weeks. The board said the action was designed to help American farmers dispose of their grain crops at the present high prices. (Press, Sept. 11.)

Canada Wheat Crop

An Ottawa dispatch to the press to-day states that Canada's wheat crop this year will total 291,604,000 bushels, according to the latest estimate of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, issued September 10. Of this total, the Prairie Provinces are expected to harvest 267,177,000 bushels. Last year's crop was 474,199,000 bushels, of which the Prairie Provinces raised 452,260,000 bushels. To-day's figures were based on reports of average yields per acre reported by crop correspondents at the end of August, except in Quebec and British Columbia, where the estimates were made at the end of June. The oat crop for all Canada this year, the report said, is expected to total 463,860,000 bushels, compared with 563,997,000 bushels last year; barley, 90,769,000 bushels, compared with 76,997,800; rye, 12,799,000 bushels compared with 23,231,300; flaxseed, 10,846,000 bushels, compared with 7,139,500.

Sugar Produced by Chemistry

The New York Times to-day states that at yesterday's session of the convention of the American Chemical Society Professor E. C. C. Baly of the University of Liverpool told how formaldehyde, made from carbon-dioxide and water, played upon by certain ultra violet light rays, would produce and has produced glucose sugars. Commercial production of this product is still a long way off, but the discovery was hailed as one of the most important in the history of scientific research in modern times. Furthermore, Professor Baly's paper indicated that the problem of duplicating the immensely complex chemical reactions which go on in living plants is nearing solution.

Section 2

Branch Banking

Howard H. Preston is the author of a lengthy article on branch banking in The American Economic Review for September. He says in part: "The growth of branch banking in the past decade is responsible for most of the present interest in the subject. A few States in recent years have undertaken to check the movement. In some States where such prohibitory laws have been passed branch banking is unknown in practice, and in others the law was passed before the issue had attracted general public attention. Washington, for instance, amended her banking code in 1909 to prohibit branches. This was done upon the recommendation of the bank commissioner and was aimed primarily at a foreign-owned bank. Local bankers testify that the issue was not widely discussed at that time. The crucial test of the public estimate of branch banking must come in those States where branch banking is practiced. In most instances the disposition seems to be to give it a trial. If it has merit it will command public support and will probably spread into adjacent States. If it proves unsatisfactory it may be either modified to suit conditions or abandoned where tried."

Business Conditions

Omaha Journal-Stockman is quoted in Sioux City Live Stock Record for September 6 as saying: "A generally accepted axiom is that the prosperity of a country depends mainly on the purchasing power of its citizens, and Roger W. Babson, the noted economist, gives this as the basis for his belief that the United States is now just entering upon a period of real, Nation-wide good times. The feverish industrial activity of the past few years in the eastern centers of population did not spell genuine, national prosperity because in the West agriculture was depressed and the buying power of the farmers correspondingly reduced. It is the advance in prices of farm products following a slump in industrial activity and prices that is bringing about general prosperity. 'If industrial conditions are good, work plentiful and wages high in the large cities, many think this to be the basis of real prosperity,' says Mr. Babson, 'but such is not the case unless the agricultural sections are also prosperous. If the crops are good, land values increasing and grain prices high, many think that prosperity is assured; but this is not true unless city wage workers are prosperous also. It is impossible for the country to be prosperous without both the industrial and agricultural groups happy. One is the hatchet and the other is the handle; one is the lock and the other the key; one group can not maintain the present standard of living without the other group enjoying it likewise. Moreover, both are like a team of horses. The speed of the team is determined by the slower horse. When either farm prices are abnormally low compared with city wages, or when a period of industrial unemployment exists with satisfactory farming conditions, there is a brake on prosperity. This inequality has been one trouble with the situation during the past two years and is one reason why I was so bearish a year ago when everyone else was optimistic. Any real prosperity must be founded on an active demand and adequate purchasing power on the part of all large groups.' Since the closing months of 1921, when prices of farm products were at their lowest, there has been a slow

recovery and some improvement in the purchasing power of the farmer who constitute roughly 50 per cent of our population. During the same period, prices of other commodities have been gradually working to lower levels until to-day the gap between the purchasing power of the farmers and the rest of our population is narrower than it has been for three years. 'It is evident,' concludes Babson, 'that legislative credit measures, cooperative marketing and other means of buoyance failed to readjust the radical discrepancy between the price level of what the farmer bought and sold. However, since June new conditions have brought the agricultural price level to the highest point since 1920. Expanding agricultural purchasing power has automatically stimulated business.' Too often during the past weary three or four years we have been told that prosperity was just about here. We have become skeptical. Now, however, that most agricultural products are bringing a fair margin above cost of production even the farmer is willing and anxious to believe that the better day is dawning."

Forestry's By-
Products

An editorial in The New York Times for September 10 says: "The curse of prodigality seems still to linger over many of the extractive industries. Last week Secretary Hoover reminded the country how the very fact that the supply of certain fish, notably salmon, had seemed limitless was partly responsible for their rapid extermination, and necessitated new conservation measures. The wasteful manner in which we destroyed our forests is only slowly being recognized. That this was a natural result of pioneer conditions in which trees were a bane rather than a blessing, and their destruction was essential to cultivation, in no way minimizes the loss to the Nation. It is also true that the small yields of our farming land are directly connected with the superfluity of good soil which until recently made it unprofitable to go in for intensive cultivation. The very wealth of our natural resources has invited wastefulness. In the early development of oil and of mining the same condition prevailed, although, owing to the advance of science, those industries were quicker to realize the necessity of making the most of by-products than were the industries connected with the soil. The recent application of the principles of scientific engineering to the wood and pulp industries marks an important advance in the right direction. The utter wastefulness of the earlier lumbering operations long stood out as a reproach to the good sense of the American people....In a recent series of articles in the American Forests and Forest Life, Dr. Louis E. Wise, Professor of Chemistry at the New York State College of Forestry, made the statement that of the three million cords of coniferous wood used annually for the production of pulp, less than one-half actually enters into the composition of the finished paper. The rest, with some small exceptions, goes into waste. Chemists have been studying methods of utilizing this waste, and in due time will find profitable methods of disposing of it. Meanwhile, it is poured into streams, polluting them and killing fish....Into the manufacture of most of these articles the new chemistry has been introduced with great success. But the results show that it is still only a beginning, and that the elimination of waste of all sorts is still

a leading factor in all forestry conservation. Important as it is to preserve the remaining forests and to plant trees, and great as is the need to regulate cutting, it is also important to conserve as much as possible of the wood products actually harvested, so that the return from the Nation's lumber supply will not be decreased by continued extravagance."

Inflation

The Journal of Commerce for September 9 says: "To those who believe that the price level is largely determined by the amount of money and credit being utilized at any time the present relationship between prices and credit operations must be something of a puzzle. Wholesale prices, according to reliable indices, are lower than at the beginning of the year, yet the Federal Reserve Board reports credit operations at a record high level. If the past year had been characterized by increasing trade activity it would be easy enough to explain this coincidence of credit expansion and lower prices. With a steady diminution, however, in industrial activity and with the chief production indices registering heavy declines from the figures recorded a year ago, the paradoxical nature of recent developments is simply magnified. It seems a self-evident proposition that purchasing power if availed of, either in the form of money or credit spent, is bound to have a price raising tendency and that it will inevitably advance prices in the absence of countervailing trade expansion. Since the trade expansion is lacking, the conclusion seems to be either that the price indices do not tell the whole story or that the banking figures exaggerate the amount of credit being utilized. Both these surmises are to a certain extent correct. Speculative inflation, which finds its outlet in higher stock and bond prices, is not measured by wholesale price indices which conform to the price movements of staple commodities. And much of the new credit made available during the past year has patently been directed toward dealings in securities."

Prices and Profits

An editorial in Farm, Stock and Home for September 1 says: "...Year after year the largest per cent of the number of failures is represented by retail food dealers, though the aggregate liabilities are comparatively small. The Harvard Bureau of Economic Research, through Prof. C. D. La Follette, presented figures to the convention of retail grocers last June which showed that for every dollar's worth of merchandise sold, 17.3 cents represented cost of doing business, 80.9 cents cost of goods and 1.8 cents profit. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the Department of Agriculture found that in the retail meat business, out of each dollar it took 76 cents to pay for goods; 19 cents for expenses, and 5 cents profit. A fact very frequently, in fact, always overlooked by the speaker or writer, who in addressing farmers is more intent on applause than in giving facts, is that farmers are usually selling raw material that must be processed before it reaches the consumer. This of course means a money outlay that must be got back by charging the consumer a price that will furnish a profit to the manufacturer. While it is possible that cooperative marketing and cooperatively making agricultural products ready for consumption will reduce some of the expense and give the producers more money, as is done by the cooperative creameries and cheese factories, the real and vital thing is to

get a profitable price for the product at the farm. That done, it is after all a matter of indifference to the farmer how much the ultimate consumer has to pay. This is the basis on which manufacturing is done, and you never hear manufacturers complaining about the spread between what they get and the consumer pays."

Sugar Beets and
Wheat
in England

An editorial in Country Life (London) for August 30 says: "It is no exaggeration to say in regard to agriculture, that is to say, the production of food, that 90 per cent of the people in this country take no thought for the morrow. If they did, alarm would drive them to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Philip Snowden, who has avowed himself a convert to the policy of growing sugar beet in this country. Indeed, no thoughtful person can read the latest figures issued by the Ministry of Agriculture without realising that the moment is an anxious one. At midsummer of this year the total area under cultivation was 70,000 acres less than in the corresponding month of the previous year. That figure is more eloquent than any protest made against the return of agricultural neglect after the stimulation by the necessities of war. The figure does not stand alone. During the same period the total arable area fell by 253,000 acres, and that for wheat alone by 194,000 acres. Yet, there are many farmers who still hold that wheat is the most important British crop. Without discussing that point, it is sufficient to remark that the deduction is inevitable. We shall have to depend more than ever upon the foreign supply of wheat. Mr. V. A. Malcolmson puts the state of affairs very clearly when he points out that 'since 1918 acreage has been lost to wheat sufficient to supply for the whole population of Great Britain for one month in the year.' If that is not a good reason for making all politicians who have even a fragment of responsibility take a serious view of the situation, we do not know what would be....Almost as grave is the fact that in exporting countries the rate of consumption is continually increasing and the margin for export is diminishing in consequence. A third important point is that, instead of being one of the richest, if not absolutely the richest country in the world, we have become poor as a Nation and can not as conveniently as before pay for our imports with exports. These are the considerations that lend the gravest aspect to any diminution in our production of food...Lord Denbigh has given figures to show the extent of the assistance that the sugar beet industry might give to food production. He says that if fifty factories could be organised, they would require about 400,000 acres under beet in any one year. On a four-course system this would keep over a million and a half acres in clean and improving cultivation, that is to say, all the crops on this area might be expected to give greater yields than they are doing at the present moment, and thus the general effect on agriculture would be beneficial. It would lead to a certain amount of new work, as a farmer usually has to employ a farm hand for every new space of ten acres that he devotes to growing sugar beet, and it would give work to about 30,000 men working in the factories in the four slackest winter months. If each of the factories turned out 6,000 tons of sugar, the total would only amount to 300,000 tons--a very small amount as compared with that imported. The effect, however, on general agriculture would be most beneficial. Wherever sugar beet cultivation has taken root as an industry it has vastly increased the

productivity of the soil, and the great wheat crops now raised in various European countries are largely due to the thorough preparation and manuring of the ground which sugar beet necessitates. It might be expected to follow that the growing of vegetables and fruit would also become more lucrative in this country. That would enable us to improve produce of this kind, and ultimately lead to state of things in which English gardeners would furnish all the garden products that are necessary in the English home....."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 10: Potato market steady to firm. New Jersey sacked Irish Cobblers \$1.35 to \$1.85 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; \$1.40 to \$1.50 f.o.b. Colorado cantaloupes, Salmon Tint declined 50¢ to \$1.50 ranging \$2 to \$3 per standard 45 in city markets; 85¢ to 90¢ cash to growers at Rocky Ford. Peaches irregular. Eastern Elbertas ranged \$1.25 to \$3.25 per six basket carrier and bushel basket in leading markets. Michigan and Illin. Oldenburg apples \$1.75 to \$2 in Chicago; \$1.15 to \$1.25 f.o.b. Benton Harbor.

Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.05 for the top and \$9 to \$9.75 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.25 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers steady at \$5.25 to \$10.75; feeder steers steady at \$4.50 to \$8.25; light and medium weight veal calves \$5.25 to \$13; fat lambs \$12.25 to \$14.25 and fat ewes \$3.25 to \$6 \$6.50.

Closing wholesale prices on 92 score butter: New York 38 1/4¢; Chicago 37 1/2¢; Philadelphia 39¢; Boston 38 1/2¢.

Average grain prices quoted September 9: No.1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.26 1/4 to \$1.37 3/4. No.2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.33 to \$1.36; Kansas City \$1.28. No.3 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.27 1/2; No.2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.25 1/2. St. Louis \$1.23 to \$1.24; Kansas City \$1.15 to \$1.25. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.21 1/4 to \$1.21 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.16 1/2 to \$1.17. No.2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.20 1/2 to \$1.20 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.13 to \$1.14. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.20 1/2 to \$1.21; Minneapolis \$1.15 1/2 to \$1.16; St. Louis \$1.19 to \$1.20; Kansas City \$1.13. No.3 white oats Chicago 46 3/4 to 47 1/4¢; Minneapolis 44 3/8¢ to 44 5/8¢; St. Louis 46 to 46 1/2¢; Kansas City 47 1/4 to 47 1/2¢. No.3 white corn Chicago \$1.19 1/2 to \$1.20 1/4; St. Louis \$1.17; Kansas City \$1.10.

Spot cotton down 83 points during the week, closing at 22.05¢ per lb. New York October future contracts down 74 points, closing at 22.78¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept.10,	Sept.9,	Sept.10,1923
	20 Industrials	101.13	101.98	93.31
	20 R. R. stocks	88.92	89.89	80.31

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 11.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 62

Section 1

September 12, 1924

Farm Women and Club Work

The Washington Post to-day says: "Bringing the farm woman into the circle of club activities will be one of the subjects of discussion at the meeting of the executive committee of the General Federation of Women's Clubs to be held in the general federation headquarters at Washington this month. Mrs. John D. Sherman, the new president, points out that through club extension work the enrollment of 2,000,000 farm women might be possible. Mrs. Sherman also desires to formulate some plan by which the junior membership of the general federation can be increased to 1,000,000."

Farm Conditions

"The Exploited Farmer" is the title of an editorial in to-day's New York Times, which says: "Senator Shipstead of Minnesota has just exposed the machinations of Wall Street. He declares that 'a small group of financiers in control of the farm products market have inflated prices during the past two months in an attempt to fool the farmer into believing that prosperity is at hand.' But the case of the exploited farmer is even worse than the Senator thinks. The Department of Agriculture has recently estimated how many hundreds of millions more farm crops are worth this year than last. Some have even said that, including the gain in land values, the farmers are billions better off than they were. Professor David Friday, addressing the farmers' banks established by Federal legislation and cash, though well known as at least a former 'friend of the farmers,' pointed out that the farmers' dollar is increasing in purchasing power and that this change in conditions will probably favor the farmers through a term of years. It may be added that the Federal farmers' banks have just reduced the rate of interest on loans and that the rise in the value of farms, the mere increase, is \$28,000,000,000 above 1900, or more than the estimated value of all the railways of the United States. It is painful to recite such pitiful details of the farmers' misery, but worse is to be added. The interests are passing dividends on the stock of companies which buy the farmers' wool at prices inflated by the tariff. The enemies of the farmers are crowding the freight cars to a total above a million weekly at the latest reported figures. But Senator Shipstead speaks up for the friendless victims of 'prosperity propaganda.' Those who believe him will hasten to realize their profits at the expense of the interests which are inflating farm values on the flimsy excuse of a shortage of yields in both the United States and Canada. If the interests are so stubborn as further to inflate values on the chance that frosts may reduce the maturing crops, those who sell before the top is reached will only prove their friendship for the farmers by the profits which they sacrifice. The farmers' enemies are those who call their attention to facts. The farmers' real friends are those who advise them to recoup their losses by going into politics."

Germany Makes Second Payment

A Berlin dispatch to the press to-day states that Germany yesterday paid to Gwen D. Young, agent general for payments under the Dawes plan, 20,000,000 gold marks, representing the second payment due from her in accordance with the London compact.

Section 2

Agriculture 1

George E. Roberts, vice president of the National City Bank of New York, is the author of an extensive article on "Farming as a Business" in The Country Gentleman for September 13. He says in part: "Any general aid which may be given to agriculture by legislation, and which has the effect of stimulating production, is likely to have disappointing results so far as farmers as a class are concerned. It may benefit individual farmers if the effects are not general, or if the effects are general it may benefit consumers, but increased production is not a remedy for low prices in the case of the average farmer. This was illustrated by the effects of the Homestead act, giving land to settlers. As a means of stimulating settlement and building up new States, it was a success, but the stimulus to agricultural production had a disastrous effect upon the value of farms in the Eastern States. If the Government had gone farther and had given free implements to the settlers or had arranged for the free transportation of agricultural products from the farms to markets, the resulting agricultural depression probably would have been still greater; at any rate no less. What is wanted for the prosperity of any industry is stable conditions and the natural adjustment of production to consumption. The free and cheap lands of the West have exerted a powerful influence for cheap products during all the time that they have been available for settlement, because they have held out the most enticing inducement that can be offered to the masses of men, namely, the prospect of homes owned by themselves, certain to enhance in value with the lapse of time, and which they could leave to their children. This hunger for land ownership has been the great factor in low returns for agriculture in all the years since railroads have solved the problem of transportation. So long as cheap lands which could be brought easily under cultivation have remained, it has been inevitable that production should anticipate consumption rather than follow it, and as a consequence that prices would be kept down to little better than the average of production costs. Not only has established agriculture in the past, which means down to the present day, had to contend with the competition of new and cheap lands available for cultivation, but it has been affected by a constant surplus of labor, created by the improvements in farm machinery."

2

St. Louis Daily National Live Stock Reporter for September 6 says: "In these trying days when the demagogues are running all over the country wailing about agriculture having gone to the demerit bow-wow, it is refreshing to see more farm leaders with the courage to urge their constituents to 'keep a stiff upper lip' and stay by the ship until conditions right themselves. One such of these is Farm Advisor Alfred Raut of Madison County, Ill., who says: 'We have never known a time when there were so many farm sales in Madison County as at present. It seems that a great number of men are getting out of the game, others may be taking their places but we can not help feeling that these men are making a very serious mistake. The farming game is like any other game. If we expect to accomplish anything we must stay until the last man is out. Just now farm prices and the farming industry generally is rallying. Some of our men have decided that the game is lost and are moving



to town. There are still men on the farms whom we wish to encourage to stay. It is an established fact that all businesses have their cycles. They have periods of low prices and discouraging conditions and then periods of rise to high price and very favorable conditions. Agriculture is entering upon a favorable swing. It may be several years before the crest is reached but the men who are in the game now and will stay with it are sure to reap the benefits of the game. The men who are leaving now will very likely be coming back in just about the time the low price begins to take effect and they will have the pleasure of enjoying a falling market for their enterprise."

Business Outlook

In his weekly review of the business situation, Theo. H. Price says in Commerce and Finance for September 10: "Being in Chicago last week it was my good fortune to meet many prominent business men of that city. They were all hopeful of an active business during the autumn and winter but the head of one of the largest jobbing concerns in the country said that the much talked of improvement was as yet 'atmospheric rather than tangible.' In this view most others in the same line concurred, but when I asked how they explained the increase over last year's bank clearings that has been reported for many weeks they admitted that business must be good in some quarters with which they were not so well acquainted. And this seems to be the truth. The ease of money and the readiness with which solvent corporations can sell their bonds has made it possible to undertake much new or auxiliary construction that would not have been entered upon otherwise....But when we get into the field where the buying ability or disposition of the individual is a factor the outlook is not quite so clear. The farmers are or will be in a position to spend rather more than previously but they have many debts to pay and the 75 per cent of the people who are not farmers will find their ability to buy clothing and household furniture cramped by the advance in the cost of the food that they must have or starve. This may explain why some dry goods merchants are still dubious and it also sheds some light on the embarrassment of the Consolidated Textile Co. and the action of the American Woolen Co. in passing the dividend on its common stock because of the 'severe depression in the textile business.'"

Cooperation

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for September 13 says: "With the upturn of prices a good many observers believe a profitable era for farming is beginning. But that is no reason for a let-down in cooperative effort. Farmers are feeling a good deal more cheerful regarding the future. But they should not desert the movement to put farming on a strong business basis. Some of the difficulties that have recently beset agriculture are being removed, temporarily at least, by natural causes. But don't junk the machinery that was being set up to cope with the farmers' problems. The bitter hard struggle of the past few years turned the minds of many farmers toward cooperation. Now that the struggle is relaxing somewhat, there is a whisper that cooperation is due for acute neglect. Such has been the common fate of movements for farm relief in the past. Cooperation has made more headway in the past four

years than in any ten previous. Farmers have given more intelligent study than ever before to the application of modern business principles in the marketing of farm products. The Federal and State departments of agriculture and the agricultural colleges have recognized its importance. But there is real truth in the old deacon's observation that 'trouble fetches in the converts and prosperity takes out the backsliders.' 'This is not a time to backslide.'

Cotton Future Trading

The Journal of Commerce for September 10 says: "Cotton future trading at Chicago is an experiment which is being watched with no little interest. It promises to carry out in practice a system of accepting delivery at southern points, which has been advocated in some influential quarters. If the experiment proves the efficacy or the fallacy of the 'southern delivery' theory we might count the Chicago experiment as well worth while. But much to the regret of many cotton traders it is feared that Chicago is not so located as to make it possible to give that theory a thorough trial. Although more than half the American cotton crop may be grown west of the Mississippi, and, therefore, although Chicago may be closer to the points of delivery in the South, the regrettable thing is that Chicago is not backed by any textile manufacturing center and consequently may find it difficult to develop any large number of buyers. The southern delivery of cotton contracted for on the New York exchange has been advocated by persons who believe this will result in broadening the market and will bring futures to a point nearer the price for spot cotton. Some believe it would then be more difficult to put the near positions to a premium. On the other hand, it is argued that the requirement of southern delivery on these contracts would make almost impossible a broad 'bull' movement in cotton; that it would be impossible for small traders, as only the large dealers could afford to have inspectors at all the points in the South where delivery might be made. The point has even been raised that if a system of southern deliveries is insisted upon the necessity for wider scope in hedging operations would force much of the business now done here to be transferred to European exchanges. Chicago as a trading center is in no position to threaten the supremacy of New York as a market for trading in cotton futures. Yet if the Chicago traders believe they have hit upon a particular branch of the cotton business that they can handle more efficiently than any other exchange they have good reason to set up the new market."

Foreign Market

The Financial Age for September 6 says: "Mr. Hoover said last week, when interviewed in Washington, that 'recuperation of Europe will intensify competition in a great many industries and, on the other hand, with recuperation will grow the expansion of consumption.' He further declared that 'a recovery in Europe on volume of employment means an immediate increase in consumption, and will cause an increased demand for American farm products.' This statement, coming from Mr. Hoover, should prove of special interest to the farmers of the country, who will share to a large measure in any good that may come from the settlement of the reparations question and the stabilization of conditions in Europe."

Oklahoma Farmers

An Oklahoma City dispatch to the press of September 9 says "How rapidly Oklahoma's \$70,000,000 wheat crop is going into the liquidation of indebtedness of the farmer is illustrated in collection reports of the farm loan division of the State Land Office. Interest collections on farm loans amounted to \$550,000 by August 25. The State has about \$22,500,000 lent on farm lands. The figures show nearly 100 per cent of collections under the interest paying date of August 15."

Pittsburgh Plus

"Pittsburgh Plus has been outlawed. The Federal Trade Commission issued an order that the practice be discontinued. Thus the farmers and other steel users throughout the Middle West have chalked up another victory for themselves. According to the decision signed by a majority of the commission and handed down in July the abandonment of Pittsburgh Plus will mean cheaper steel and an annual saving of \$30,000,000 to the farmers of eleven Middle Western States. It will decentralize the steel industry and build up steel-producing centers in other parts of the country. It will eliminate useless crosshauls by railroads. It will force competition among steel producers, reestablish many western plants and eliminate price concealment by the steel makers and compel them to disclose exactly how much they charge for steel and how much for freight. These claims are contained in the opinion handed down by the Federal Trade Commission. Whether or not they can ever be realized no one knows. Probably the Steel Corporation will take an appeal to the courts because there is some question as to the commission's jurisdiction. Regardless of how the courts may decide however, the chances are that Pittsburgh Plus and similar trade practices have been definitely abolished." (Country Gentleman, Sept. 13.)

Railroad Merger

Referring to the recent merger of five railroads, an editorial in Farm, Stock and Home for September 1 says: "It is significant of the change that has come in public opinion since the days of the Northern Securities Co. that sought to merge the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Burlington, that the proposal has been received practically without protest along the lines of the to be merged companies. One reason, and we think the principal, is the present attitude of the railroads toward the public. In the old days of mergers the underlying idea was to exploit the territory covered to the extent of all the traffic would bear. From the standpoint of the people, their salvation depended on having competing railroads, from that of the railroads the elimination of competition was the great end and aim. It was from this condition the establishment of the Interstate Commerce came....The present day idea behind railroad mergers is to reduce overhead thereby making it possible to reduce freight and passenger rates. To those who may dissent from this view, we say that even if we are wrong and they are right, the Interstate Commerce Commission is on the job to see that mergers really work out this way. The only way we can get lower freight rates is to reduce the cost of manufacturing transportation. Properly run mergers is one way of doing this. A little judicious merging in this part of the country would not do us any harm."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 11*: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.25 for the top; \$9 to \$10 for the bulk; medium and good beef steers \$6.65 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers \$3.35 to \$10.75; feeder steers \$4.50 to \$8.25; light and medium weight veal calves \$8.25 to \$12.25; fat lambs \$12.25 to \$14.25; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$8.25 to \$11.25; fat ewes \$3.25 to \$6.50.

New Jersey sacked Irish Cobbler potatoes \$1.35-1.75 per 100 pounds in eastern city markets, \$1.40-1.45 f.o.b. Long Island bul' Cobblers and Green Mountains \$1.60-1.65 in New York. Minnesota Early Ohios, sacked \$1.15-1.20 carlot sales in Chicago. Eastern and midwestern onions, yellow varieties \$1.50-2.50 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Colorado cantaloupes \$1.75-2.75 per standard 45 in most city markets, 75-80¢ to growers at Rocky Ford. Eastern Elberta peaches generally firm at \$2-3.00 per six basket carrier and bushel basket in city wholesale markets. New York Oldenburg apples declined closing at 75¢-\$1 per bushel basket.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 39¢; Chicago 37 1/2¢; Philadelphia 40¢; Boston 39¢.

Closing price at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 10: Flats 20¢; Twins 19 1/2¢; Single Daisies 20¢; Double Daisies 19 3/4¢; Longhorns 29 1/2¢; Square Prints 21 1/2¢; Young Americas 20 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 11: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.30-7/8-\$1.43 3/8. No. 2 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.31 1/2; St. Louis \$1.36-1.39; Kansas City \$1.33. No. 2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.26 1/4-1.27; St. Louis \$1.24 1/2-\$1.27; Kansas City \$1.16-1.26. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.21-1.21 1/4; Minneapolis \$1.16-1.16 1/2. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.21 1/2-1.22; Minneapolis \$1.19 1/2-1.20. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.20 1/2-1.21; Minneapolis \$1.18 1/2-1.19; St. Louis \$1.20; Kansas City \$1.15. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 1/4-48 cents; Minneapolis 45 78-46 1/8 cents; St. Louis 46 1/2-47 cents; Kansas City 48 cents. No. 3 white corn Chicago \$1.20 1/2; St. Louis \$1.20; Kansas City \$1.11.

Average price of Middling spot cotton up 22 points, closing at 22.27¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 30 points, closing at 23.08¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 11,	Sept. 10,	Sept. 11, 1923
	20 Industrials	101.79	101.13	87.80
	20 R. R. stocks	89.06	88.92	77.73

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 12.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 63

Section 1

September 13, 1924

Wheat

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Wheat is piling up fast despite the large export buying which in the last three weeks has totaled about 20,000,000 bushels, mostly hard winters and durums. In two months it has increased 38,940,000 bushels and last Saturday night was 73,278,000 bushels, the largest in recent years and within less than 2,000,000 bushels of the high mark last year, reached November 24. In the two months from the middle of July last year there was an increase of 24,372,000 bushels, with the total a year ago 58,182,000 bushels. At the present rate of accumulation there are likely to be around 100,000,000 bushels in the visible supply by January 1. In 1919 the visible supply reached 130,613,000 bushels on February 1. Should farmers continue to sell their wheat freely in the next three months, market leaders advance the opinion that it will take a continued heavy export demand to absorb the grain and hold prices around \$1.22 to \$1.25 for the current futures."

Irrigation

In an editorial on irrigation The New York Times says: "...Mr. Davis in his speech at Denver made a plea for a reform of the irrigation policy of the Federal Government. In this he is in accord with the special commission appointed by the President last spring to look into the whole problem. The findings of that body, which were made public some months ago, give a comprehensive exposition of the difficulties faced on the different irrigation projects, and contain valuable suggestions as to the future, which have already received the support of President Coolidge, though Congress gave no heed to him. Reclamation is not a partisan affair. It is a subject for scientific adjustment. The special problems involved can be solved only on a business basis, making full allowances for costs of construction and of operation and for the crop yields per acre of the different soils brought under irrigation. Mr. Davis called attention to the injustices to the settlers arising from the excessive costs of some of the projects. It is unquestionably true that in numerous cases the estimates of construction and the actual costs were completely at variance, and that the expenses, when finally passed on to the settlers, were far too high. These resulted from faults of engineering, however, and are not the greatest burdens which the irrigation farmer has to meet. He is more troubled by the repayment plan under which he has to refund to the Government the cost of construction. ...The very fact of Federal construction of water sites places the irrigation farmers in a special relationship to the Government....The work which they do is in a sense permanent, in that they add to the capital value of the original investment made by the Government. Once the capital charges of the project are paid, however, and the costs of construction are met, the special relations with the Government cease. It is to the advantage of both parties that this come about as soon as possible. The original reclamation plans contemplated such action. But the returns in many instances have fallen far below expectations, and the unscientific construction of some of the projects has made the sums to be repaid to the Government excessive in view of the yield of the land."

Section 2

Land Values

Glenn Griswold, writing in The Philadelphia Ledger for September 12, says: "With the season for farm-land purchases just opening up, bankers expect considerable activity in this field, with some large transactions already closed. A few weeks ago Guy Huston, president of the Chicago Joint Stock Land Bank, declared that now was the time to buy corn land, and he predicted several years of activity in the transfer of farm titles. This theory is borne out by the Woods Brothers Companies, of Lincoln, Neb., ranking at the top of the land-owning concerns of the West and with extensive interests in other business and financial enterprises. The Woods announced September 10 that they have completed one of the most important Iowa farm transactions in some time in the purchase of the J. G. Linden farms, covering 1,760 acres near Clear Lake. This tract has been operated as a corn-growing and cattle and hog-feeding plant, and the owner gives as his sole reason for selling the farms his desire to retire because of advanced age.

"An insight of what these important land interests are doing and what they think is afforded by a statement of Mark Woods, president of the Woods Brothers Companies. 'It is our opinion,' he says, 'that this is the best possible time for making investment in corn-belt farm land. We have acquired, all told, in Iowa, 7,000 acres of corn farms, which, we have no doubt, can be sold for double the purchase price and probably more within the next three to five years. The business of agriculture has engaged the attention of our best financiers and our lawmakers and is the dominant issue in the present presidential campaign. Agriculture has a recognition now that it never had before in such definite form. This has come naturally and inevitably because of the important relation that farming bears to every other industry in the land. Every interest recognizes now that agriculture must be safeguarded and kept on a basis of equity with commerce and labor. With this situation existing, and in connection with the fact that the farm lands of America now are virtually all under operation, it is certain that good farm lands will appreciate in value. Then there is the great advantage the corn-belt lands have over lands elsewhere, that is, the proximity to market and the fact that they have a near-monopoly of the world's corn production. The manufacture of sugar from corn, which has taken such definite form, places a further premium on corn land. We are only at the threshold of corn-sugar manufacture, but there is a prospect of boundless limitations that adds to the importance of corn lands as a factor in the world's supply.'"

Rubber Production

The New York Times of September 8 says: "The solution of the problems of the rubber-growing industry is the finding of new consumption channels, rather than a further restriction of production in the opinion of leading trade authorities. Efforts are being made on the part of the Rubber Growers' Association to raise funds for the purpose of carrying on a campaign to encourage the consumption of this product. According to British authorities, interested in rubber production and consumption, it has been recognized for some time past that the Stevenson Restriction Scheme, in spite of its advantages, can only be regarded as a temporary

palliative for the difficulties which confronted the rubber growers when compulsory restriction was introduced two years ago. Increased consumption, rather than reduced production, is what is required to make rubber growing permanently remunerative, according to the British interests, and for this reason the activities of the Rubber Growers' Association in the direction of carrying on its campaign is viewed with interest in the trade....."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 12: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.35 for the top; \$9.10 to \$10.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.75; feeder steers \$4.25 to \$8.40; light and medium weight veal calves \$8.25 to \$12; fat lambs \$12.25 to \$14.50; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$8.25 to \$11.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Long Island bulk Cobbler potatoes and Green Mountains \$1.50-1.65 in New York. Wisconsin bulk Round Whites \$1.50-1.60, carlot sales, in Chicago. Eastern sweet potatoes generally lower. Eastern Shore Virginia yellow varieties \$4.00-6.00 per barrel, top of \$6.50 in Chicago. Eastern and midwestern onions, yellow varieties \$1.75-2.50 sacked per 100 pounds in leading markets; \$1.50-1.65 f.o.b. Warsaw, Ind. Michigan and Illinois Jonathan apples \$2-2.50 per bushel basket in St. Louis and Chicago. Eastern Elberta peaches \$1.50-2.75 per bushel basket in eastern markets. Colorado Elbertas \$2.35-2.75 in the Middle West.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 39¢; Chicago 37 3/4¢; Boston 39¢; Philadelphia 40¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 11: Flats 20¢; Single Daisies 20¢; Double Daisies 19 3/4¢; Longhorns 20 1/2¢; Square Prints 21 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 12: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.33-1.45. No. 2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.42; Kansas City \$1.32-1.34. No. 2 hard winter Chicago \$1.30 1/4-1.31; St. Louis \$1.28 1/2-1.29; Kansas City \$1.20-1.27. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.23 1/4-1.24; Minneapolis \$1.19 1/4-1.19 3/4. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.22 1/2-1.23; Minneapolis \$1.18 1/4-1.19 1/4. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.22 1/2-1.23; Minneapolis \$1.18 1/4-1.18 3/4; St. Louis \$1.21; Kansas City \$1.16. No. 3 white corn Chicago \$1.21 1/2-1.22; St. Louis \$1.20 1/2-1.21; Kansas City \$1.14 1/2. No. 3 white oats Chicago 49-50 cents; Minneapolis 46 1/4-46 1/2 cents. St. Louis 48 1/2-49 3/4 cents; Kansas City 47 5/8-49 1/3 cents.

Average price of middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 52 points, closing at 21.75¢ per lb. New York October future contracts declined 53 points, closing at 22.55¢.

(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and	Average closing price	Sept. 12,	Sept. 11,	Sept. 12, 1923
Railroads	20 Industrials	101.91	101.79	92.05
	20 R. R. stocks	89.45	89.06	79.30

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 13.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 64

Section 1

September 15, 1924

Vegetable Growers A Louisville, Ky., dispatch to the press of September 14 states that vegetable growers from every State will meet there September 15 at the annual convention of the Vegetable Growers Association of America, to discuss ways and means to combat the inroads of the Japanese beetle, Mexican bean beetle, European corn borer and other insect pests, and to take action on proposals for better marketing facilities, standardization of methods and production of quality crops from pedigreed seed. Features include an international contest for celery king of America, a junior gardeners' national contest, tractor demonstration, choice of the champion boy or girl gardener of America, and demonstrations of vegetable growing features by junior gardeners.

Grain Prices A Minneapolis dispatch to the press to-day states that with recent export business all grain prices have shown new strength the past few days. There is decidedly a better feeling among the farmers of the Northwest than has prevailed for several years. Grain has been moving freely to country elevators, but recent rains will retard this for a time. The dispatch says: "The September Government report issued a few days ago conforms more closely to the ideas of those in close touch with the Northwest States of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana. It has been felt that previous estimates of the grain crops were too low....There is a better tone throughout the Northwest in business circles, although no great increase in buying has been shown. The retail lumber business, which has been almost dormant, shows decided sign of revival. The banking situation in the country districts is much better. Reports have been received of some old loans being liquidated and interest being paid. Some sales of farm land have been made which indicate the better condition. There is no doubt that with a continuation of good prices the farmers will endeavor to convert their products into money, thereby relieving the Northwest situation of a condition that has been so unsatisfactory for the past few years."

Cattle Trade A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "To have the second smallest receipts of cattle one week and the second largest of the year in the week following is enough to demoralize the cattle trade, and this is what has happened in the last two weeks. Following the advance of the previous week, there was a rush of cattle to market, particularly at Missouri River points, where Westerns were in excess of supply, as ranchmen are rushing in their stock. At Chicago there were 70,700 cattle received, compared with 42,320 the previous week and 57,852 last year. Expectations are that there will be 70,000 here this week, while a year ago there were 72,072. Of western cattle there were 14,500 last week, against 3,600 the previous week and 14,600 last year."

Section 2

Business

Conditions 1

An editorial in Chicago Dairy Produce for September 9 says: "There is a lot of encouragement in general business conditions that promises well for what remains of 1924 and the early part of 1925. As we have stated in recent editorials, the farmer's situation has greatly improved and continues to improve, and of course other lines of business will follow in the way of prosperity. World conditions are growing better. In this line of trade the improvement means that Europe will take care of its butter crop and will buy heavily of the produce we will have to sell. A most encouraging news item appeared in Chicago Tribune of last Wednesday stating that the signing of the Dawes reparations plan had made Europe an immense buyer of cash grain in this country and Canada. In the matter of details it was stated that the total of cash grain handled exceeded all the estimates and dwarfed the speculative interest in the market....The improved foreign situation and price differences in butter encourage the belief that we will have later a considerable export demand."

2

Commenting upon a letter issued by the Department of Agriculture asking farmers to present the chief cause of the poverty which has beset agriculture during the last few years, Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman for September 10 says: "The replies, when received, showed that 42 per cent of all the folks who wrote believe that low farm prices are the chief cause of the poverty which has beset agriculture during the last few years. High taxes were named as the principal cause by 17 per cent of the letter writers. High wages were named by 11 per cent, high freight rates by 10 per cent, high interest rates by 10 per cent, reckless spending on the part of farmers themselves by 6 per cent, and too much credit was given as the cause by 4 per cent. It might be interesting to speculate on the very small percentage of the folks who laid their own troubles at their own doors. But it is much more interesting to survey these seven stated reasons for the lack of farm prosperity and to see whether, after all, the folks themselves have any control over them. Too much credit? Can not a farmer control his own borrowing to some degree at least? Reckless spending? -Doesn't every man have the power to regulate his own? High interest rates? Do we not have something to do with the making of rates by our own competition with each other for all the money that everybody has to lend? High freight rates? Can not any farmer cut his own freight costs by raising his own home living? Can not some folks cheat the railroads by raising those cash crops which can be sold at home? High taxes? No farmer acting alone can solve this question; but farmers working together can, especially when it is remembered that 75 per cent of all the advalorem taxes are spent in the local township and school district where levied and that 90 per cent are spent in the county in which the people live who pay them. If we want taxes lowered we can get it done by united district, township or county action. If, on the other hand, we want good schools and roads and other improvements we should not object to paying for them. Low farm prices? Farmers can handle that question, too, whenever enough of them are willing to combine in a cooperative marketing association on a scale

large enough to affect the markets of the world. High wages? Here is the one item of the seven which the people who live on farms can not affect very much and the reason why they can not do much with this item is because the workers who draw these high wages are firmly organized to resist wage reduction. Union labor has gained a secure position because the workers have learned to stand together for a common purpose, even though it did take them nearly 50 years to reach that secure position which they hold to-day. Will the farm folks ever organize for better prices on a similar scale and will they keep at the job as the labor unions did until they get what they want? Rome wasn't built in a day, you know. Here are the seven items. Four of them can be affected by any farmer, anywhere, on any farm, to a greater or less degree. Two of them can be solved by a determination on the part of the folks to work together. The seventh is a hard job because the folks who draw wages are organized. But if we can correct six out of the seven troubles which farmers themselves say are the fundamental causes of our agricultural problem, why worry about high wages?"

Butter Market

An editorial in The Dairy Record for September 3 says: "Butter factories must not only compete with their own increased production this year, but they are faced with the competition brought on by a diversion of raw material from other dairy manufacturing plants to the creamery. We have already mentioned the heavy stocks of cheese and the decline in ice cream consumption because of the mild summer, but the condition in the condensed and evaporated milk market has been given little consideration. Total stock of condensed and evaporated milk on July 1 amounted to 300,000,000 pounds, an increase of fifty-two per cent over last year, fifty-three per cent over two years ago, and thirty-seven per cent in excess of the 1920 figure, the previous high record on July 1. The stock on June 1 this year was more than double that of any June on record. Fortunately, however, there appears to be a better tone to the market than has existed for some time, and there is hope that conditions will improve so that the other branches of the industry will not be called upon to handle this additional amount of butterfat."

Cooperative Marketing

An editorial in American Fruit Grower Magazine for September says: "In their eagerness to promote cooperative marketing, many persons have made extravagant claims for it. Even some of our capable leaders, who certainly know better, have made the most startling claims for it. Such statements do more harm than good. There are certain things that cooperative marketing will do and certain others that it will not do. Wise leaders will clearly state these things even though organization in certain cases may be delayed. In the long run, better results will be secured....The writer has frequently heard it claimed or suggested that cooperative marketing would enable growers to set their own prices. Such statements may appeal to prejudiced minds, but they are misleading. After all is said and done, we must remember that the law of supply and demand is at work, no matter whether cooperative marketing is in existence or not. It is true that manipulation, speculation and market psychology affect prices at times, but in the main, the law of supply and demand is

the chief factor in determining prices. When crops are big, prices are bound to be less than when crops are small. If an association controls a sufficient proportion of the products, growers can thereby most evenly balance the supply of products for the season and the country at large against the total demand for the season and country at large. In this way, cooperative marketing will help to bring about the most normal operation of the law of supply and demand but it can not under any circumstances set aside this law. There are other serious problems in agriculture besides those which cooperative marketing can solve. For instance, there is the tax problem, the transportation problem, the problem of more efficient production, and the problem of getting the Government to change its viewpoint toward agriculture so that the industry may be placed on a parity with other industries. The latter problem is one which directly concerns food producers, but in a general way, it is a serious problem for the entire country, for no country can best thrive without a prosperous agriculture. The cooperative leaders who adopt a balanced viewpoint toward cooperative marketing will get farthest and will last longest in that important work. One never makes a mistake by stating plainly just what a thing will do and what it will not do. Extravagant claims are sure to cause a backfire sooner or later."

Illinois Farm Values

The Philadelphia Ledger for September 13 states that there have been two important transactions in the last two weeks in DeKalb County, in the northern part of Illinois, not far from Chicago. One tract of 120 acres sold at \$250 an acre, and a larger farm sold at \$210 an acre, both representing an advance of about 25 per cent over values of a few months ago. In the boom times of a few years ago there were many transfers of title at \$400 an acre, but this did not represent true value.

Prices

The Magazine of Wall Street for September 13 says: "The average price of commodities, largely because of a great rise in the grains and livestock, shows an increase for the first time in nearly a year. To some, this has appeared as the consequence of the influence of our large gold reserves which are imagined to have brought on the beginnings of inflation. What warrant there is for this belief is difficult to understand. Our gold reserves have been regularly increasing during the past few years. We had nearly as much gold last year as this and still no inflation. The last real period of inflation in this country occurred in 1919-1920 when our gold reserves were far below the present quantity. As a matter of fact, the recent rise in commodities has in reality been a very minor one except in the case of the grains, and has been due simply to the fact that supplies have been limited during the past few months owing to general reduction of output and that buyers are again coming into the market. It is certain that these buyers are not at all motivated by the gold supply situation. That is not the way in which business is conducted. People buy because they need goods or think they need goods, not because the gold supplies are large."

Raisin Marketing

An editorial in The Pacific Rural Press for August 30 says: "The Raisin Growers received some pleasant news last week. They learned that their association is in good financial condition. They learned that the association was actually better off than it had been for four years. They were assured of an additional payment on the 1923 crop in September. And one of the real tests of their strength was the report that the conservative financial interests of California had agreed to advance ten million dollars on the 1924 crop. This loan will enable the association to distribute an advance payment to growers on delivery. That members of the association are well aware that without the association they would be much worse off is indicated by the reports from all districts that members anticipate delivering their raisins one hundred per cent to the association. While selling prices were not as high as would be desired by growers they have the knowledge that their products brought the highest market price possible under existing economic conditions. While knowing that outside growers received more money than they, thinking farmers recognize that if it were not for the association the prices received by all, both inside and out, would have been less."

World Wheat

The Wall Street Journal for September 12 says: "For the year ending July 31, 1924, which is the European cereal year, the world supply of wheat is more than sufficient to meet demand. However, there is less margin between supply and demand than in the two preceding years, and for this reason prices are likely to remain fairly high, showing a tendency to fluctuate with every important change in weather conditions in any part of the wheat producing or consuming world. This is the conclusion drawn from a report on world wheat by Sir James Wilson of Crieff, one of the most eminent statisticians in the world. Whoever reads this report should get a clear idea of the forces that made wheat cheap a year ago and fairly high now. In the cereal year beginning August 1, 1923, and ending July 31, 1924, the countries for which statistics are available, excluding Russia, produced a total of 3,464,000,000 bushels of wheat compared with 3,120,000,000 in the year ending July 31, 1923, and 2,976,000,000 the average of five years ending in 1914. To this crop of 1923-1924 also is to be added 160,000,000 of old wheat held in the exporting countries. These exporting countries, he finds, in the year beginning August 1, 1923, and ending July 31, 1924, had a total exportable surplus of 1,000,000,000 bushels. But their exports for the year, including 24,000,000 bushels shipped out of Russia amounted to 776,000,000, and at the end of the season, July 31, 1924, they had a carryover of 224,000,000 bushels besides about 40,000,000 bushels on passage....By reducing carryover to the necessary minimum, Sir James estimates that the exporting countries can ship 808,000,000 bushels in this present year, which ends July 31, 1924. This compares with the 1,000,000,000 bushels surplus of a year ago, and the actual shipments of 776,000,000. Importing countries, however, have not good crops, and they could use more wheat. Their imports were stimulated to 776,000,000 bushels last year by low prices. This year, on account of higher prices, as well as exchange difficulties, he concludes the importing

countries will reduce consumption of wheat and purchase abroad 50,000,000 bushels less than last year, or a total of 726,000,000 bushels. Thus, at the end of this cereal year, July 31, 1925, the world will have a surplus of 72,000,000 bushels of old wheat compared with 224,000,000 July 31, 1924, and 160,000,000 July, 1923. These are the findings of an unprejudiced student of world reputation."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS
(WEEKLY REVIEW)

Farm Products

September 12: Chicago hog prices ranged from steady to 35 cents higher than a week ago. Medium and good beef steers were 15 to 40¢ lower; butcher cows and heifers steady to 25¢ lower; feeder steers 15 to 25¢ higher; light and medium weight veal calves \$1 to \$1.75 lower; fat lambs steady to 25¢ higher; feeding lambs steady to 25¢ higher; yearlings steady, and fat ewes 25¢ higher.

Potatoes irregular. New Jersey sacked Irish Cobbler \$1.40-1.75 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.35-1.45 f.o.b. Eastern sweet potatoes generally lower. Eastern Shore Virginia yellow varieties \$4 to \$6 per barrel, top of \$6.50 in Chicago. Tennessee Nancy Halls steady to firm. Onions unsettled. New York Oldenburg apples steady to firm. Peaches tend lower.

Butter markets continue unsettled during the week but steady to firm at close. Trend of prices uncertain and subject to influence of immediate supply and demand. Into storage movement slower as operators were less willing to assume resulting risk. Street stock heavier. Production running heavy.

Cheese markets steady to firm. Movements of goods fairly active. Anticipated demand for September made cheese together with usual tendency of prices during month appear as supporting influence.

Grain market firm with higher prices. Wheat futures 6 cents higher on bullish report Canadian crop, unfavorable European crop news, and heavy export buying. Corn higher with wheat and fear frost damage but traders cautious at present levels and profit taking checked advance. Oats higher with corn despite liberal receipts. Demand for cash grain active with higher prices.

Hay market slightly easier. Light receipts holding best grades barely steady, lower grades plentiful and weaker. Timothy and alfalfa practically unchanged. Prairie slightly easier.

Feed markets very dull and inactive. Demand from consuming territory lacking. Wheatfeeds in liberal supply. Speculative trade showing interest only when they can buy equal amounts November-December bran along with September-October at same price. Cottonseed meal weak and quoted about \$1 per ton lower. Gluten feed and hominy feed quotations unchanged with offerings about equalling the demand.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 211 points during the week. New York October future contracts declined 189 points. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price			
	Sept. 13,		Sept. 12,	
	20 Industrials		20 R. R. stocks	
	101.97	101.91	89.93	78.53
	89.56	89.45		

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 15.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 65

Section 1

September 16, 1924

Wheat For Export F. Schneider, jr., writing in The Philadelphia Ledger to-day, says: "Theodore D. Hammatt, an investigator employed by the Department of Commerce, declared in the current number of Foreign Affairs that a long-range view of the world wheat situation lends little encouragement to the belief that large-scale production by the United States will prove profitable. Mr. Hammatt says, in effect, that the American farmer may as well give up the idea of cutting much of a figure in the export market. In arriving at this conclusion Mr. Hammatt points out that the war upset the world breadstuffs situation. Before the war about 2,100,000,000 bushels of wheat were produced for export. Slightly more than half of this came from the United States, Canada, Argentina and Australia. The rest came from Russia and India. During the war the first four countries increased their production sharply, thus making good the loss occasioned by decreased supplies from Europe and India. In 1920-1923 virtually the same amount of wheat was produced for export as before the war. But the first four countries mentioned above increased their proportion of it to an annual average of 1,507,000,000 bushels. In this gain Canada came first with an increase of 129 per cent, Australia was next with an increase of 32 per cent, the United States was third with an increase of 16 per cent and Argentina came last with 6 per cent. With war influences sinking back into a position of less and less importance, competition in the export market has become more severe. In addition, 'the back-pressure of more bountiful harvests in importing countries,' so Mr. Hammatt reasons, 'and the appearance of Russia wheat in quantity--developments which may be expected to occur--would render competitive conditions still more difficult.' Under these circumstances costs of production become of more and more importance. Comparative figures for the several competing countries are not available. Nevertheless, it is fair to assume, as Mr. Hammatt does, that the higher charge against the American crop for the use of land and labor makes our unit cost higher. A cut in our wheat acreage from 76,683,000 acres in 1919 to 57,111,000 in 1924, coming at a time when acreage was expanding in Canada, Argentina and Australia, seems to prove that the assumption is valid. If the American wheat grower should have to entertain but modest hopes for an export market his prospects would not, however, be gloomy. He has, for one thing, the finest domestic market in the world. For another, he has a market at home that is steadily growing. Once his production were adjusted to the home market his position should be satisfactory. The summer's advance in wheat prices and rather liberal foreign buying might seem to make talk of abandoning the export market out of order. An immediate abandonment would no doubt be premature."

Land Buying Banks are urged to keep watch so that farmers, who, as a whole, will be prosperous this year for the first time since 1920, do not use their profits in land speculation, by the American Banker, which says: "It is altogether natural for the farmer to invest his surplus in land. Provided such land purchases are governed by the thought of the land's permanent income no harm is done. But if there follows a period of lively trading and speculation in farm lands the catastrophe of 1920-21 may find its echo next year. A runaway market in land should not be allowed to develop out of the normal and beneficial recovery."

Section 2

American Woolen
Company

In an editorial on the passing of the American Woolen Company dividend, The Magazine of Wall Street for September 13 says: "Last October, President Wood, of the American Woolen Company, made the following statement: 'The \$7 dividend this year will be earned and paid. The company, moreover, has a profit and loss surplus of \$33,000,000 built up through a long period of years. This the management and directorate naturally have always regarded, since the mills are entirely free of liens or obligations, as protection for the preferred and common dividends.' A few days ago the common dividend was passed. We soberly ask what sort of a protection the surplus of American Woolen was so far as the common dividends are concerned. Possibly, common share holders in the company will be solaced in the passing of their dividend by the knowledge that the company, according to President Wood, has a profit and loss surplus of 33 millions. There are a few, however, who would prefer to have the surplus a little smaller, if their dividends could have been continued. We believe that corporation officials should be a little more careful in making their statements to the public."

Cooperative
Marketing

Commercial West for September 13 says: "The findings of Judge C. E. Miles recently, sitting as examiner for the Department of Agriculture in the case against the Central Cooperative Commission Association, call attention to the fact that cooperative marketing is not an automatic or self-executing panacea for the ills that beset the sale of farm products. It indicates that eternal vigilance is the price the farmer must pay if he is to assure himself of freedom from marketing abuses. The published extract of the findings, made after an exhaustive series of hearings in South St. Paul this spring, indicates two very important departures on the part of the cooperative concern from the spirit and letter of the Federal law--a law whose enactment was occasioned by the demand of cooperative societies, for the purpose of checking the very abuses charged to the regular commission firms, of which the cooperative association is now found guilty! The Central Cooperative Commission Association is found liable to fine and penalty for failing to post and file its schedule of fees with the Department of Agriculture. Thus it is in violation of the Federal statute which cooperators insisted upon securing as a means of protection against paying fees which might be imposed on the basis of 'all the traffic would bear.' It was found guilty of 'rendering false account sales to the owners or consignors of livestock'--a charge reiterated against the regular commission firms through cooperative publications and urged as a reason for the establishment of farmer-owned marketing agencies! The temptation to such a course with cooperative concerns is very great. The management desires to 'show a profit.' The member, believing that large sums are taken in the sale of livestock by commission men, looks for his share of the riches diverted from the pockets of the commission firms, from his own cooperative concern in the form of 'patronage dividends.' The manager, wishing to make a good showing, falls a victim to the pressure and renders a false account of sales in the belief that the 'profits' so taken are eventually turned back to the member in his patronage dividend check. As the rule of

cooperative operation is the greater the patronage, the greater the dividend, there is no actual loss to the livestock owner, for what he fails to get on the sale price comes to him eventually in his dividend check. Yet, while he may not be robbed, the method is devious and certainly not in conformity with the Packers and Stockyards act. The court's conclusion, 'that the respondent is engaged in and used an unfair, unjustly discriminatory or deceptive practice in connection with the receiving, buying or selling on a commission basis' will serve to strengthen and preserve a very valuable marketing system."

Corn Prices

Sioux City Live Stock Record for September 10 says: "Another thing we want these artists who are talking prices of 1913 as compared with present prices to do is to give us the price of corn fed to livestock on the day it was fed. We don't want any more of this invoicing corn consumed by the livestock at the market of date on which the stock was sold. We were looking over a bunch of nice, fat cattle yesterday. 'I tell you,' remarked the man who owned the cattle, 'it don't pay to feed dollar corn and sell cattle at these prices.'... 'How much dollar corn did you feed these cattle?' we asked. 'Well, that's the price of corn to-day,' remarked the man. At this we asked him if he was content to be unfair to his cattle, his farm and himself. 'You sold your corn to the cattle at the market price for corn on the day you shoveled it into the feed trough--and you will never get to giving yourself, your farm and your livestock a square deal until you go to invoicing corn at the price on the day it was fed to your stock. If you, and your neighbors, and all their neighbors had held out your corn, not fed it to stock, there wouldn't be a bushel of dollar corn in the world. But there would be a mighty howl to have Congress fix a price for corn.' Admittedly it is human nature to look at the corn market on the day stock that has consumed the crop is on the livestock market--but it is not giving the farm a square deal. It is in a class with comparing 1913 prices with prices of to-day without taking any other comparative conditions into account."

Farm Machinery Prices

Michigan Farmer for September 13 says: "A very interesting comparison of commodity prices has recently been made to show the relation of the price of a number of manufactured articles used on the farm to the present prices of farm implements. The price of eleven basic farm machines was taken as an index and found to be thirteen cents a pound on an average. The average price per pound of steel ranges is given as fourteen and one-quarter cents; steel beds cost fourteen cents a pound; milk cans cost twenty-nine and one-half cents a pound; a buck saw costs twenty-one cents a pound, and a steel square costs eighty-one cents. A steel anvil costs fifteen cents a pound, a forge costs twenty-six cents, a scythe costs sixty-two cents, a shovel thirty-one cents, a carpet sweeper sixty cents, and the world's cheapest automobile costs twenty-six cents a pound. A sulky plow, priced at the rate of a wash wringer, would cost \$45 more than it does now, a grain drill priced at the food chopper rate of thirty-nine cents a pound would cost \$390 more, and a seven-foot grain binder at automobile prices would cost \$200 more than the current price of a grain binder to-day. Farm

machinery prices are often said to be higher than other prices. This doesn't tend to show them in that light, certainly."

Farmer Organization

An editorial in The Rural New Yorker for September 13 says: "A healthy sign is the growing demand of farmers all over the country for instructions on the principles of cooperation and correct information as to its record of success and failure. Fortunately now the whole country is committed to the principle that farmers must be allowed the privilege of organizing their industry and of marketing their products through a common selling agency without fear of anti-trust statutes. Both national and State laws now exempt farm organizations from the provisions of laws intended to prevent 'restraint of trade.' These exemptions have been made under the contention and the conviction that a monopoly of our agricultural product to force an unfair price on the consumers is impossible in this country. If experience should prove that this conclusion is an error, and that a monopoly be actually created later, there is little doubt that the exemptions would be repealed. As Dr. Mechlin of the Wisconsin University points out in his report for the American Farm Bureau Federation, the function of cooperation is not monopoly of supply, but efficient and economic distribution. The form of organization that will best accomplish this purpose is the best plan for the farmer. The hopeful thing about it is that the farmer, with but few exceptions, is not taking any ready-made opinions, conclusions or prejudices as final. He is not looking for 'canned' judgment, because he knows it may be prejudiced by selfish interest. He wants to know on what state of facts these assertions are made. He is asking for correct information so that he can form a sound judgment for himself. This promises well for farm organization."

Farming

The Hilmar (Calif.) Enterprise for September 5 says: "'There is no future in farming.' We hear that much too often these days. Unfavorable markets, heavy taxation, high labor costs, the spread between commodity prices and farm produce prices all may make the outlook a trifle discouraging at times. But the man or woman with sufficient vision to see more than a year or two ahead must admit that there is a real future for the boy on the farm. The millions of people who are flocking to our industrial regions must be fed and the American farmer will feed them. The unfortunate inequality in income between farm and city residents is bound to change, and the change must come through the efforts of the farmer himself. Take marketing, one of the biggest agricultural problems of the times. Already the farmers on the Pacific coast have learned how to cooperate so as to bring themselves a good return on their investment and labor. The failures of cooperative enterprises in the past are now convincing proof that such ventures must always fail. Incompetent management and even dishonesty have wrecked many a farm marketing plan, but so have they ruined great business institutions. Now leave marketing out of consideration, and turn to production. Gradually farmers are learning how to produce more with less work. The average butter fat production per dairy cow has been tremendously increased during the past 25 years. Better strains and varieties of seed and root crops, and better methods

of handling are increasing the production per man and per acre to an astonishing degree. And when it comes to machinery we reach another subject sufficient unto itself. One has merely to recall how grandfather did things on the farm and then visit a modern Hilmar community farm to realize that wonderful things may come in the future. All that most of us need nowadays is greater perspective."

Food Costs

The Department of Labor, through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has completed the compilations showing changes in the retail cost of food in 18 of the 51 cities included in the bureau's report. During the month from July 15, 1924 to August 15, 1924, 13 of the 18 cities showed increases. For the year period, August 15, 1923 to August 15, 1924, 13 of the 18 cities showed decreases as follows: Scranton, 5 per cent; Buffalo, Detroit and New Haven, 4 per cent; Indianapolis, Memphis, New York, Norfolk, Portland, Me.; and Providence, 3 per cent; Charleston, 2 per cent; Atlanta and St. Paul, 1 per cent. The following 5 cities showed an increase; Dallas, 4 per cent; Jacksonville, Louisville, and St. Louis, 1 per cent; and Kansas City less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. As compared with the average cost in the year 1913, the retail cost of food on August 15, 1924, was 50 per cent higher in Detroit; 49 per cent higher in Providence; 47 per cent in Charleston; 46 per cent in Dallas, New York and Scranton; 45 per cent in Buffalo; 44 per cent in St. Louis; 43 per cent in Atlanta and New Haven; 40 per cent in Indianapolis; 39 per cent in Jacksonville and Kansas City; 36 per cent in Louisville; and 34 per cent in Memphis. (Press statement, Sept. 11.)

Rubber Restriction

The Journal of Commerce for September 10 says: "The results of the British rubber restriction scheme known as the Stevenson plan, which became effective in the fall of 1922, have been made public for the period to the end of July of the current year.... Judging from the published data there is nothing that would seem to justify any present alarm on the part of American rubber-using industries, for the aim of the association is to maintain an average London price of 1s. 3d, varying the exportable surplus with this end in view. Considering that the present price of crude rubber in the New York market is less than one-fourth what it was at the beginning of 1913 the growers have evidently not set their standards very high. For some time it was charged that the failure of the Dutch growers to enter into the agreement had led the latter to profit at the expense of the British plantations, but the improvement which has occurred in the market recently appears to belie this pessimistic conclusion. The Government-controlled restriction scheme is, however, confined to British estates in Ceylon, the Malay States and the Straits Settlements, although most of the British-owned estates in the Dutch colonies are said to support the plan by voluntary reductions of output. Assurdly the control has not operated to prevent shipments, for the totals exported from the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements show a steady increase over a period of years, rising from 188,900 tons in 1921 to 252,146 tons in 1923, while the exports for the first seven months in 1924 reached 144,800 tons. Considering

the distresses under which the rubber plantations have labored and the limited gains achieved so far there seems to be no reason for fearing that the further restriction of 5 per cent upon exports initiated August 1 will result in any hardship to consumers of the product. And there is always the protection afforded by the competition of the outside plantations ready to take advantage of any opportunity to overreach the market."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 15: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.50 for the top; \$9.10 to \$10.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.75; feeder steers \$5.00 to \$8.50 light and medium weight veal calves \$8 to \$11.50; fat lambs \$12 to \$14; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$8 to \$11; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

New Jersey Irish Cobbler potatoes \$1.35-1.65 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern markets; \$1.25 f.o.b. Onions tend higher in leading markets. New York yellow varieties mostly \$1.75-2.25 sacked per 100 pounds. New York Oldenburg apples 90¢-\$1.50 per bushel basket in the East. Eastern peaches fairly steady; western stock unsettled. Pennsylvania and New Jersey Elbertas \$2-3.25 per six basket carrier in eastern cities; \$3.25-3.75 in Chicago. Colorado Salmon Tint cantaloupes \$1.75-2.50 per standard 45 in consuming centers; 65-80¢ cash to growers at Rocky Ford.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 38¢; Chicago 37 1/2¢; Philadelphia 39¢; Boston 39¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets
September 13: Twins 19 1/2¢; Single Daisies 20 1/2¢; Longhorns 20 1/2¢; Square Prints 21 3/4¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 12: No.1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.32-1.46. No.2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.42-1.44; Kansas City \$1.34. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.30 1/4-1.31 1/2. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29 3/4; St. Louis \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.19-1.31. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.20-1.20 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.16 3/4-1.17 1/4. No.2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.19 1/2-1.20 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.12 3/4-1.13 1/4. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.19-1.20; Minneapolis \$1.15 3/4-1.16 1/4; St. Louis \$1.17-1.18; Kansas City \$1.14 1/2. No.3 white oats Chicago 47 3/4-48 3/4 cents; Minneapolis 45 1/2-45 3/4 cents; St. Louis 48-49 1/2 cents; Kansas City 48 1/2-49 cents. No.3 white corn Chicago \$1.19 1/4-1.19 1/2; St. Louis \$1.16-1.17 1/2; Kansas City \$1.14.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 63 points, closing at 21.12¢ per lb. New York October future contracts declined 72 points, closing at 21.83¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 15,	Sept. 13,	Sept. 15, 1923
	20 Industrials	101.38	101.97	89.05
	20 R. R. stocks	89.34	89.56	78.03
(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 16.)				

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 66

Section 1

September 17, 1924

Crop Results

In an extensive editorial on "Politics and the Crops," based upon Department of Agriculture figures, the New York Times to-day says: "Taken together, the harvests provide a hard nut for the party of discontent to crack. No doubt we shall hear that the present year's windfall of agricultural good fortune is an accident, to be followed by even more desperately hard times for the farmer of 1925. But that, after all, is theory, and the extra hundreds of millions in the farmers' bank account are highly convincing facts. Many people remember just how far the same argument, similarly employed by the Bryan campaigners of 1896, did or did not outweigh in the November vote the influence of the 40 cents per bushel rise in wheat!"

Farm Mortgages

An Omaha dispatch to the press to-day states that three hundred members of the National Farm-Mortgage Bankers' Association of America, holding their annual convention at Omaha September 16, declared more optimism to exist in the ranks of the farm-mortgage bankers throughout the country than at any time since 1918. "We have plenty of money to lend and no one wants it," Mark Martin, of Omaha, told the convention in his address.... "Nebraska never enjoyed a lower interest rate than at present." The convention declared itself in favor of uniform mortgage and foreclosure laws for all States.

Farming Conditions

W. J. Bailey, governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, writing of the 1924 crop in the Tenth Federal Reserve District, in American Bankers Association Journal for September, says: "A wonderful change has been brought about. Let us take the wheat farmer to illustrate. Six months ago he had the sympathy of everyone and all kinds of unsound and impractical propositions were proposed for his benefit. To-day the wheat farmer in this district is the King Bee. What has brought about this changed condition in so short a time? We are having one of those bumper crop years that come periodically in this great Southwest, and it has come to us at a time when other great wheat producing countries have had poor crops, and the time-old law of supply and demand is at work and all the world needs our wheat at the advanced prices. What will it mean to the credit condition of the district, especially as applied to the banks? I am sure that this new wealth that has come to the farmers of this district will be and is being used by them to pay their debts to the banks and merchants, who, in turn, take up their notes at the banks, and already many banks that six months ago were in a perilous situation find themselves in good condition."

The Dawes Plan

An Associated Press dispatch from Paris to-day states that the execution of the Dawes plan as set forth in the first report of Owen D. Young, temporary agent for reparation payments, before a special meeting of the Reparation Commission September 16 was regarded by the commissioners as auguring well for the success of the plan.

Section 2

Chicago Cotton
Futures Market

Arthur R. Marsh, writing in The Economic World for September 13, says: "Everybody who is concerned with the merchandising or the manufacture of cotton in this country has naturally followed with great interest the development of the project for establishing a cotton futures market as one of the important departments of the Chicago Board of Trade. This project has been under discussion among the members of the institution for a long period past, but it was not until a little more than a year ago that it began to assume concrete shape. Up to that time the practicability of conducting a commercially and economically sound cotton futures market in Chicago was deemed by the majority of the more experienced and prudent members of the Board of Trade to be doubtful, owing to the fact that Chicago by reason of its geographic position not only is not a natural market for actual cotton in the sense that this product normally flows here in quantity for purposes of distribution to near-by manufacturers or for exportation, but is not even on the route regularly followed by cotton in its passage from the producing territory of the South to the principal consuming districts of the United States or to foreign countries. In other words, while Chicago is a great natural market for wheat, corn and the other grains, as well as for farm animals and their products, it is only by some commercial tour de force--for example, diversion of occasional quantities of cotton from the well-recognized trade channels through railroad competition--that a bale of cotton ever finds its way there. Hence no American cotton manufacturer and no exporter of cotton would ever think of turning to Chicago as a source of supply for cotton; there is no body of established cotton merchants in that city and no organized machinery for handling and merchandising cotton.....It is perhaps not unnatural that one of the first effects of the decision of the Chicago Board of Trade to add cotton to the list of agricultural products for which it provides the facilities of futures trading, should have been to excite curiosity in many quarters as to the reaction of the members of the long-established New York and New Orleans Cotton Exchanges to the new departure in their field....There is little indication either of jealousy or of apprehension on the part of the cotton merchants and traders who compose the membership of the New York and New Orleans Cotton Exchanges. Their point of view seems well-nigh universally to be that it would be idle for them to regard themselves as even remotely entitled to freedom from additional competition in the cotton futures business, that in this supposedly free country it is open to any group of persons anywhere to organize a cotton futures market if they see fit and to make a success of it if they can, and that in any event themselves have been taught by the experience of the past that they are much more likely to gain than to lose in a business sense from such a broadening of the clientele of all the cotton futures markets as the activities of the members of the Chicago Board of Trade are almost certain to produce....No elaborate analysis is needed to demonstrate that the new theory of futures trading which the Chicago Board of Trade has adopted for its cotton futures market, which many members of the New York Cotton Exchange are seeking to have their own institution adopt and to which the

Federal Trade Commission has committed itself in its recently issued 'Report on the Cotton Trade', rests upon the assumption that no harm will result if the making of future contracts in cotton is, so far as the great majority of those engaging in such transactions in the futures market are concerned, completely disassociated from dealing in the actual cotton which the future contracts purport to represent."

Forest Land Taxation

The taxation of forest land is one of the most difficult problems in the whole forestry question, according to the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University. Conflicting interests, lack of knowledge on the part of forest land owners as to how their properties can be handled profitably, necessity for collecting taxes annually to defray expenses of the Government, and the long time required for a forest crop to mature and be converted into money, it points out, are a few of the obstacles that stand in the way and which must be overcome before a generally satisfactory forest land tax can be devised that will aid the owner of forest land and encourage forest management under scientific methods. In a review of conditions, the college says: "During the last dozen years ten States have enacted tax laws designed to promote forestry. These laws have been drawn on the principle of placing the tax on the timber when harvested. This seems to be working toward the right idea, but none of these laws has been taken advantage of by a large number of owners. The Massachusetts law, which has received the approval of many foresters and tax experts, is believed to be the best tax law based on the yield-tax principle that has yet appeared. In addition to all the other difficulties in forest land taxation is our system of assessors and assessments. Before any tax law can be made generally acceptable, some attention will have to be paid to adjustment of assessments to conform with the purpose and spirit of the principle on which the tax is levied. The Clark bill, signed by President Coolidge, calls for an investigation of this subject and appropriates money for carrying on the work. So the day may not be far off when a tax law will be written based on actual knowledge of conditions that will greatly stimulate the practice of forestry by the private owner."

Grain Merger

The American Fertilizer for September 6 says: "The new co-operative grain marketing company is meeting with a cool reception from the farm press. The farmers will own the business--when they pay about \$26,000,000 to the present owners of the elevators and other facilities. The project dwarfs all previous cooperative organizations. The danger is that its very size will be the cause of its failure. It is not easy to secure local cooperation of the farmers. It will be much more difficult to unite farmers a thousand miles apart in a single selling project."

Meat Inspection

The National Stockman and Farmer for September 13 says: "Federal meat inspection has few critics and no opponents. Occasionally from some foreign land where consumers eat cured hog meats without cooking we hear of a case of trichinosis, but taking it as a whole Federal meat inspection is satisfactory to all

concerned. That can not be said for other inspection, municipal or State. In some cases municipal inspection amounts to little or nothing. No provision has yet been made for adequate State inspection. As a result the slaughterers who carry on interstate business and must have Federal inspection have the best of it in one way and the worst of it in another. Among customers who know the facts they have the best of it, for such consumers demand inspected products... Let us consider the fee system whereby inspection may be made to carry itself. And let us keep in mind all the time the ultimate advantages of inspection to consumers, to slaughterers and to producers, for it will result in benefit to all of them if it is properly established. Perhaps we should say to all except a certain small class which deserves no consideration in any case. Why not attack this problem in the proper way and do it now?"

Metric System

Price Current-Grain Reporter for September 10 says: "The Grain Dealers' National Association since its inception in the late '90's has grown into a large, powerful organization, capable of wielding immense influence. Its success has rested on the service that it has rendered the grain trade. There is plenty of work ahead and it must ever be on the alert for the interests of its members and the trade in general. Adverse legislation affecting the grain trade is always with us and now the All-American Standards Council comes out with an announcement that it proposes to have a bill introduced as soon as Congress convenes for the adoption of the metric system. The Price Current-Grain Reporter wishes to vigorously oppose this legislation. It would entail much hardship on the grain trade and cause a financial loss running into millions of dollars without any compensation to offset. It would eventually mean the scrapping of every weighing facility in country and terminal elevators, the discarding of all reduction tables used by the trade and cause endless confusion. The national association at its convention in Cincinnati should take plenty of time to discuss this vital legislation, formulate a plan for its opposition and carry it to a successful conclusion for the benefit of the trade. Propaganda is continually circulated in favor of the metric system and nothing has been published to combat it. This question must have serious consideration."

Potash 1

An editorial in The American Fertilizer for September 6 says: "After many false rumors it seems likely that at last the German and French potash producers have come to some sort of an agreement. Until the actual terms of the agreement are known, it is idle to discuss what effect the new plan will have upon the potash consumers in this country. The price of potash has been low, in comparison with pre-war figures, but it must be remembered that before the war a natural monopoly enabled Germany to exact an unreasonable price for potash. Both France and Germany are in financial straits, and in common with the rest of Europe look on the United States as rolling in wealth. Under these circumstances it will not be surprising if the price is advanced somewhat. One immediate result of the new deal will be a renewal of the agitation for a subsidy to the producers of domestic potash."

Potash 2

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for September 13 says: "The Director of the U. S. Geological Survey is reported as saying that the production of domestic potash will be sufficient to put a curb on the efforts of foreign producers to make a world monopoly of that product. The events of the past fifteen years have shown that, if it is at all possible, this country should develop its own source of potash. But it should be done by the Government, or under its control, and not at the expense of agriculture alone as was proposed by interested parties when the last tariff bill was written. If it is necessary for national safety, as it was said to be during the war, then the finding and development of a home supply is a matter of national concern and the expense should be borne by the whole people. But since the use of potash in peace times is largely by farmers the placing of a high tariff duty on imported potash as a protection to the home potash industry would put an unfair burden on agriculture."

Production

Michigan Farmer for September 13 says: "People as a body have not yet reached the stage of civilization that inclines them to look very far ahead. They judge the future by the present, forgetting that there is a continual change taking place, both in production and price. When hogs are low they quit raising hogs, and consequently have none to sell when the resulting scarcity of them makes prices high. Now that we have had a good wheat year, Michigan farmers plan to increase their plantings of wheat by 80,000 acres. It is this unregulated production, this blind flocking to things that are prosperous for the time being, that is responsible for keeping many of us down. It leads us from one extreme to the other and in the majority of instances catches us on the losing side. Instead of looking ahead and anticipating the needs of the people, we do not see them until they are forced upon us and then we immediately proceed to overdo the job of supplying them with more than is needed."

Woolen Industry
Abroad

The New York Times to-day states that reports from abroad relating to the prospects of British woolen industry over the next few months are interesting in view of the action of the American Woolen Company in suspending dividends on its \$40,000,000 common stock this past week, due to the depression in the woolen textile industry in this country. The Manchester Guardian, commenting on conditions in the Leeds district, states there is every prospect of a boom in the Yorkshire woolen and worsted industry within the next few months. A settlement with Germany is expected to give a great impetus to the textile industry, according to the information. While demand for Yorkshire cloth in Denmark, Norway and Sweden is good and improving, Australia's demand for fine worsteds shows a decline, and there is a movement toward increasing the country's own supplies of both woolsens and worsteds. Good trade is being done with Canada, the business with the Dominion being unusually large when the population is taken into consideration. It is also pointed out that the taste for cloth in the Far East is changing to the profit of the Yorkshire mills. China and Japan are now said to be seeking wool rather than being content with cotton materials.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Sept. 16: Chicago prices: Hogs, top \$10.50; bulk \$9.10 to \$10.20; medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.75; feeder steers \$5 to \$8.50; light and medium weight veal calves \$8 to \$11.75; fat lambs \$12 to \$13.75; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$8 to \$11 and fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Long Island bulk Cobblers and Green Mountain potatoes \$1.45-1.60 in New York. Wisconsin bull. Round Whites \$1.25-1.35 carlot sales in Chicago. North Carolina and Eastern Shore Virginia yellow varieties of sweet potatoes \$4.00-5.50 per barrel in leading markets. New York and midwestern yellow onions ranged \$1.75-2.50 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers, \$1.55-1.65 f.o.b. Warsaw, Indiana. New York Oldenburg apples \$1.00-1.15 per bushel basket in eastern cities. Virginia Northwestern Greenings \$1.50-2.00. Eastern Elberta peaches sold at \$2.50-3.00 per bushel basket. Colorado Elbertas \$2.50-2.75 in Chicago.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 15: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.32-1.46. No. 2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.42-1.44; Kansas City \$1.34. No. 3 red winter Chicago \$1.30 1/4-1.31 1/2. No. 2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29 3/4; St. Louis \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.19-1.31. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.20-1.20 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.16 3/4-\$1.17 1/4. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.19 1/2-1.20 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.12 3/4-1.13 1/4. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.19-1.20; Minneapolis \$1.15 3/4-1.16 1/4; St. Louis \$1.17-1.18; Kansas City \$1.14 1/2. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 3/4-48 3/4 cents; Minneapolis 45 1/2-45 3/4 cents; St. Louis 46-49 1/2 cents; Kansas City 48 1/2-49 cents. No. 3 white corn Chicago \$1.19 1/4-1.19 1/2; St. Louis \$1.16-1.17 1/2; Kansas City \$1.14.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 23 points, closing at 20.89¢ per lb. New York October future contracts declined 19 points, closing at 21.64¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 16,	Sept. 15,	Sept. 15, 1923
	20 Industrials	101.71	101.38	89.05
	20 R. R. stocks	89.40	89.34	78.03

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 17.)

DAILY DIGEST

File

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 67

Section 1

September 18, 1924

Companies Drop The United States Steel Corporation and its subsidiaries Pittsburgh Plus have abandoned the so-called Pittsburgh Plus system without a fight and will not quote or sell their rolled steel products upon any other basing point than that where the products are manufactured or from which they were shipped. The Federal Trade Commission was so informed yesterday afternoon when the Steel Corporation and its subsidiaries filed with that body a report to the effect that they would comply with the order issued by the commission July 22, which directed the corporation and its subsidiaries to abandon the Pittsburgh Plus system. The action of the commission was based on the finding that it was an unfair method of competition in violation of the Federal Trade Commission act, and price-discrimination in violation of the Clayton act. The Pittsburgh Plus system was the one used by the Steel Corporation and its subsidiaries in quoting prices on rolled steel products manufactured at and shipped from their plants outside the Pittsburgh district at a Pittsburgh base price, plus an amount equivalent to what the railroad freight charge on such products would be when actually shipped from Pittsburgh. Under this system the corporation paid the actual freight charges from their mills where the products were manufactured to the customer's destination, but the customer paid the freight from Pittsburgh. (Press, Sept. 18.)

Egyptian Cotton An Alexandria dispatch to the press to-day states that the Government has definitely decided to intervene as purchaser on the local cotton market. The dispatch says: "Lately there has been a steadily growing demand from all classes of the population connected with cotton cultivation for Government intervention in support of the market, which has lately been falling. On September 17 a large deputation of senators and deputies waited on the Premier in this connection and the Government's decision was made in response to the pressure of public opinion rather than to belief in the wisdom of influencing the market."

Wholesale Prices The press to-day reports that wholesale prices of 404 commodities continued their upward swing in August, due chiefly to the continued increase in prices of farm products and foods. Figures made public September 17 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Labor Department showed an advance in the weighted index from 147 for July to 149.7 for August.

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION
455 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10018

Open daily, 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

Reference Service Free

Reading Room Free

Study Rooms Free

Periodicals Department Free

Microfilm Department Free

Music Department Free

Photoduplication Service Free

Interlibrary Loan Service Free

Gifts Accepted

Bequests Accepted

Voluntary Contributions Accepted

For more information, contact the Reference Department

Section 2

Butter Outlook

An editorial in Butter, Cheese & Egg Journal for September 10 says: "The fact that there is a big surplus of butter in storage makes a lot of folks in the creamery business nervous. It may, however, be a blessing in disguise, as we look at it. It may be exactly what is needed to keep prices from going to a point where large numbers of people turn to oleo. Let each butter consumer in the United States eat one-half pound more butter than for the same period last year and the entire excess in storage will be taken care of."

Cost Accounting
in Britain

Country Life (London) for September 6 says: "Food for very serious reflection is supplied by the publication of the cost accounts for the last three years of Iwerne Minster Home Farm. Our readers have had many opportunities of making acquaintance with Mr. James Ismay's home farm. It is a good farm, according to the judgment of Mr. A. Bridges of the Agricultural Economics Institute, Oxford, who has prepared these cost accounts for three years. It is a farm from which it would have been reasonable to expect a profitable return if profits were possible. It is of an ideal composition, since it consists of 579 acres of pasture and meadowland 'of excellent quality,' 523 acres of arable land described as 'medium loam,' and 216 acres of downland, used for sheep grazing. Mr. Bridges says that 'all the material for reasonable success in farming is present on this farm,' and he found none of the defects to which failure in agriculture is usually traced. The land, both arable and pasture, has been intelligently maintained in a state of high fertility by fertilizers and the residues of concentrated food stuffs. Nevertheless, the result would have been disastrous to anyone not in command of sufficient capital to weather the gale. The total loss over three years has been no less than 7,009 pounds 3s. 1d. Of this loss 79.11 per cent was incurred in 1920-21, due almost entirely to depreciation in value of stock, 13.79 per cent in 1921-22, and 7.10 per cent in 1922-23. Mr. Bridges makes the comment that 'these are severe losses, but the Iwerne Minster Farm presents by no means an isolated case of this kind.' Anyone who knows the skill, prudence, and frugality with which the farming operations are done at Iwerne will regret this result and, at the same time, wonder how much it has been exceeded on farms less efficiently managed. Mr. Ismay maintains a very high standard in every direction, nowhere more so than in regard to the payment of workers....An interesting example of the thoroughness with which these accounts have been worked out is to be found in the cost of working horses for the year 1922-23. The cost per horse in that year was 66 pounds 4s. 10d. per annum. Each of the animals worked 2,038 hours in the course of the year, and the cost per hour was, therefore, 7³/₄d. The time spent on feeding was 9,921¹/₂ hours, equal to 381.6 hours per horse per annum, or a little over an hour per day--summer and winter. The cost per horse for this item was 13 pounds 10s. 5d., equivalent to 20.37 per cent of the total cost per horse. But food is the largest item in the cost of working horses, amounting to 53.45 per cent. The vet. and blacksmith between them take 6.73 per cent, the saddler 2.10 per cent and other

tradesmen 3.55 per cent of the total cost....The figures which we have quoted form but a sample of those given in the book; they are not picked out for effect, and for that reason are worthy of close reflection. It is plain that if losses such as these occur on a well-managed estate, they are certain to be severe on one that is only moderately well attended to, and were this state of things to go on, it would inevitably bring the industry of agriculture to an abrupt and disastrous close."

Creamery Conference An editorial in Butter, Cheese & Egg Journal for September 10 says: "The big conference to be held on Creamerymen's Day, Tuesday, September 30, at the National Dairy Exposition, promises to be one of the most important dairy gatherings ever held in this country. Leaders in the creamery industry from all sections have signified their intention to be present, and plans are being laid for some real constructive work. Representatives from all branches and factions of the creamery business will sit down and talk over ideas calculated to improve the quality of American creamery butter. Cream grading will be thoroughly discussed and the various grading schemes being tried out in various parts of the country will get their full measure of attention. How to reward the producers of good cream, thus encouraging the production of more of it, is a real problem confronting the industry."

Dairy Production An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for September 4 says. "If the remaining months of the year hold up to normal the year 1924 will pile up a record for dairy production in the United States. In every line--market milk, butter, cheese, condensed milk--surplus production has taken place and in trade circles attention is beginning to consider a possible revival of export trade. The surplus is most marked in market milk and butter. In almost every large city and town surplus milk offered to the distributing trade has been a bigger problem this year than ever before, and as for butter the fact that fifty per cent more has been forced into storage than last year tells the story of a big increase in production. Never before that we recall has the month of September opened with butter going into the coolers. It is happening this year both on the coast and throughout the East. Two factors account for the heavy increase in dairy production. One of these is what might be considered an abnormally favorable season throughout the East where the dairy business is strong. An abundance of rain; an abundance of grass; a flood of milk. The other reason is to be found in the fact that the apostles of diversification have been taken at their words. Many thousands of cows throughout the country that in ordinary times are kept primarily to raise beef calves have been milked this year and with an abundance of feed the calves were shunted off to butchers or put on skim-milk and the cream went to the creamery. The reaction has followed. Lower prices are putting old-time dairy men in the complaining class and holders of cold storage butter would like to see every cow in the land go dry a few months."

Grain Exports An editorial in The Breeder's Gazette for September 11 says: "Recent exports on a considerable scale of wheat and rye from this

country to Europe, which paid cash for them, indicate that American grain-growers are not yet dependent entirely upon domestic markets. Europe as a buyer of American agricultural commodities is not 'done for.' Economists and others who have been inculcating that provincial doctrine are more plausible than accurate in their expressed views on this subject. As the Dawes plan for the economic readjustment of western Europe unfolds in action, our exports to Europe of commodities originating on farms are likely to increase to a remarkable extent. They may never attain to their pre-war proportions, but it is altogether probable that they will long remain a factor of large importance in establishing prices for some of our chief cereals."

Grain Marketing
Company

American Cooperative Journal for September says: "It is going to require calm judgment and unprejudiced study of the plans and purposes of the Grain Marketing Company on the part of the farmers to come to a right conclusion in the matter, or to a conclusion that will be to their best interests. The proposition is too big and too important to the future welfare of the cooperative movement to come to a hasty conclusion. It is only a very few people who can come to a right conclusion suddenly. Some folks stumble on it but the safest thing to do is to do as would be done in court--let the evidence be presented to unbiased minds for final decision. If there are good reasons for not supporting the Grain Marketing Company, it would be unfair not to have them introduced in the case. By that I mean reasons which would show that the new company formed for marketing grain would be disadvantageous to the producer. If, on the other hand, the company is going to be a concern which will be a great help in securing better prices and more favorable marketing conditions in the future, farmers as a class would certainly be doing themselves an injustice in opposing it."

Green Citrus
Fruit

The Florida Times-Union for September 16 says: "There are two kinds of fool, the curable and the incurable. The curable green fruit fool learned from experience of the citrus trade last season that it does not pay him to injure the reputation of the Florida orange from which he makes his income. The incurable will learn nothing from any disaster. To save the trade from further damage by the folly of the latter is the task to which all concerned in the preservation of that business have addressed themselves. Eight State and three Federal inspectors will be on duty during the season about to open. They will probably be quite busy during the opening days in analyzing juice of sample fruit from the first shipments offered to determine whether or not the fruit is mature as maturity is defined in Food Inspection Decision 182 of the United States Department of Agriculture....The State commissioner of agriculture, Nathan Mayo, gives notice that he will enforce strictly the State immature citrus fruit law, seizing all fruit shipments that do not conform to the standards laid down by the State and the United States Department of Agriculture and prosecuting the shippers of such fruit under the law of the State. Such action will apply not only to the shippers of immature fruit

but to the receivers under contract of sale, or for the purpose of sale or shipment.....There would not be so much temptation to ship such fruit were it not for the discovery of a process whereby oranges green in color can be given the yellow hue of ripe fruit. The practice of 'sweating' green fruit--of holding them in a warm, moist atmosphere for a short time after removal from the tree--changes the external appearance of the fruit but has no effect upon its internal condition...."

Tenant Farming

In an editorial based upon the department Yearbook article on farm ownership and tenancy, The New York Times for September 15 says: "The recently published Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture contains a study of farm ownership and tenancy in this country which challenges some of the accepted notions about the evils of tenant farming. Although admitting the importance of combating the growing tendency toward tenancy, and recognizing the defects of the system, the report affirms that 'farm tenancy, considered as a method of acquiring the use of land, is adapted to the special circumstances of a large proportion of farmers because of their lack of experience and available capital.'...The principal justification for concern about the growth of tenant farming lies in the change in the underlying economic conditions of the country. Till recently, there has been a relationship between tenant farming and the opening up of new lands. But the last of the good farm lands have now been taken up. No longer is the wastefulness which characterized the growth of American agriculture economically profitable. No longer are tenant farmers transient pioneers. As the urban communities develop, the demand for fixed agricultural settlements increases. Gradually the country is being driven toward conditions of production similar to those brought about in Europe through the pressure of population. The great danger is that at the same time the European tenancy system may be adopted. This, unlike our own, is dependent upon permanent rather than on changing conditions inherent in the growth of a pioneer nation."

Wool Auctions

A London dispatch to the press to-day states that the opening of the wool auctions at London September 17 at 10 to 15 per cent advance is not surprising in view of the steady enhancement of values which has occurred in the long interval since the last sales. Higher prices had been consistently paid by American, Continental and British users up to the time when the Brisbane sales started a week or so ago, and now that Sydney reports still dearer conditions there is a possibility that this market is going fractionally higher before the sales close. Much of the recent improvement is said to be due to hopes of extension of Continental buying through the adoption of the Dawes report, which, in turn, has caused a good deal of speculation. While it is believed fine wools will be scarce for a time, any further advance is deprecated, because the manufacturing end of the trade resists higher quotations for goods, which must necessarily be asked if wool becomes dearer.

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Sept. 17: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.40 for the top; \$9 to \$10.10 for the bulk; medium and good beef steers \$6.50 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.75; feeder steers \$3.50 to \$7.50; light and medium weight veal calves \$8.50 to \$11.75; fat lambs \$11.75 to \$13.60; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$8 to \$11; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Green Mountain Potatoes \$1.40-1.50 in Philadelphia and Baltimore; \$1.15-1.20 f.o.b. Northern Round Whites 15¢ lower in Chicago at \$1.20-1.30 carlot sales. Onions steady to firm. New York and midwestern yellow varieties \$2-2.50 sacked per 100 pounds in city markets; \$1.55-1.65 f.o.b. Warsaw, Ind. New York domestic cabbage \$15.00-18.00 bulk per ton in leading eastern markets. Colorado cantaloupes, Salmon Tints standards 45's \$2-2.50 in consuming centers; 65-80¢ cash to growers at Rocky Ford. New Jersey and Pennsylvania Elberta peaches closed at \$2-2.75 per bushel basket. Apples unsettled. Eastern Wealthys \$1.50-1.75 per bushel basket in city markets; \$1.25-1.50 f.o.b. Rochester, New York.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 37 1/4¢; Chicago 37 1/2¢; Philadelphia 38 1/2¢; Boston 38 1/2¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets September 16: Flats 20 3/4¢; Twins 20¢; Single Daisies 20 3/4¢; Double Daisies 20 1/2¢; Longhorns 21 1/2¢; Square Prints 23¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 17: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.30-1.45. No. 2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.40-1.44. No. 3 red winter Chicago \$1.32 1/2; Kansas City \$1.26-1.27. No. 2 hard winter St. Louis \$1.26; Kansas City \$1.20-1.30. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.17-1.20 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.14. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.18-1/2-\$1.19 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.12. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.15-1.19 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.12 1/2-1.13; St. Louis \$1.15. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 1/4-48 1/2 cents; Minneapolis 44 1/4-44 1/2 cents; St. Louis 48-49 cents. No. 3 white corn Chicago \$1.15-1.19; St. Louis \$1.16; No. 2 white corn Kansas City \$1.10.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 52 points, closing at 21.41¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 61 points, closing at 22.25¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 17,	Sept. 16,	Sept. 17, 1923
	20 Industrials	103.49	101.75	89.41
	20 R. R. stocks	89.97	89.40	78.39

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 18.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 68

Section 1

September 19, 1924

Coverdale and
Silver Leave
Farm Bureau

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day states that John W. Coverdale resigned as secretary and director of organization of the American Farm Bureau Federation at the quarterly session of the executive committee at Chicago September 17, and Gray Silver resigned as director of the legislative department and Washington representative of the federation. Mr. Silver, it is reported, will devote his entire time to the Grain Marketing Company, of which he is President. The federation announces that E. B. Reid has been named temporary Washington representative of the organization, taking the place of Gray Silver.

Wheat Price

Recent statements that the rise in the price of wheat is due to artificial causes were declared by Secretary Hoover September 18 to have no foundation in fact, according to the press to-day. "Two things have underlain this advance," the Secretary said in a formal statement. "First, there are 300,000,000 bushels less wheat in the world from this crop than that of last year. Second, the increased stability to Europe by the recent settlement brought about through activities of the administration have increased the buying power and outlook for consumption. The practical effect of all this is shown by the fact that our exports of 35,000,000 bushels in the last six weeks shows substantial increase over last year. There is every reason to believe that these exports will be maintained. Prices would probably have gone to higher levels, had it not been that the farmer has crowded the market by sending in over 110,000,000 bushels out of this crop against 88,000,000 bushels for the same period last year. This is no doubt due to his necessities, but it has probably brought about lower prices than would otherwise have been the case."

Chemists Told to

Dr. Fritz Haber, the distinguished German chemist, at the Feed the World meeting of scientists gathered at Philadelphia for the Franklin Institute centenary celebration, foretold yesterday, as the great problem of the immediate future, attempts to discover how nature works her marvels through the simple but still mysterious vital processes. In these coming researches, in colloid chemistry and in capillarity, he foresaw eventual solution of the great problem of how mankind can be fed through future triumphs of synthetic chemistry. He said that a visit to America in 1902 confirmed his conviction of the importance of finding commercially practicable ways to take nitrogen from the atmosphere and assure the world against dire need when the nitrate deposits of Chile should be exhausted. His own great achievements in making artificial nitrates, for fertilization of the soil and varied other industrial uses, in the ammonia key industry followed. "We must learn how to obtain nourishment for man from the stalks and not merely from the grain of wheat," urged Dr. Haber. "The world's most urgent need is better provision for man's nutrition and for his health." (Phila. Ledger, Sept. 19.)

Section 2

Business and
Farm Prices

Because of the recent sharp rise in prices of several major farm products, The Country Gentleman asked for a statement from a number of leaders of commerce and industry regarding the current idea that commerce and industry desire to keep farm prices low and derive an advantage when able to do so. Some answers, as published in the issue for September 20, follow: "Cotton manufacturers in the South vastly prefer a good price for cotton and make more money when cotton brings a good price," stated Winston D. Adams, secretary of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association. "They favor a good price for raw cotton because they realize that unless all identified with the industry are successful they themselves can not hope to enjoy a profit for any long period. When the price of raw cotton is low it results in a low price for manufactured goods, for the buyers always regard the market quotations on raw cotton as the basis for figuring the realizing price for the manufactured product. Cotton manufacturers in seeking to arrive at a selling price for their goods figure on a certain percentage above the cost of production. If raw cotton is selling at twenty-five cents a pound they will figure, for instance, on a marginal profit of ten per cent above cost--and ten per cent of twenty-five-cent cotton is considerably more than ten per cent of twelve-and-a-half-cent cotton. We would like to see a good price for cotton, on a stabilized basis, not subject to the wild and often unexpected fluctuations that occur. These fluctuations are not only puzzling to cotton-mill managements but frequently result in substantial losses. That is a reason why we have indorsed the cooperative cotton-marketing movement."

The attitude of the packers is thus stated by Louis F. Swift, president of Swift & Company: "From the standpoint of our plant operations low livestock prices usually mean a large volume, with the tendency to keep down manufacturing costs. Rising prices usually mean a shortage of livestock and meat and, although manufacturing costs are a little higher, profits are easier to make. But when prices rise to too high a level, this tends to curtail consumption. Since low prices curtail production and high prices curtail consumption, the ideal situation would be one where prices remain fairly stable, at a level profitable to farmers and reasonable to consumers. Although rising prices mean inventory profits on what we have in stock, the subsequent fall in prices means a corresponding loss. "So far as our attitude toward the public is concerned, we have to think of both the millions of consumers of meat products and the raisers of livestock. Since the farming population has been relatively worse off than the working people in the cities, we welcome an increase in prices which tends to restore a balanced relation."

This view was presented by Richard H. Edmonds, editor of The Manufacturers' Record: "There is more profit to the manufacturers of nearly all kinds of goods when the prices of raw materials--whether they be of farm products or other things--are high than when they are low. Cheapness is never a sign of prosperity.... Manufacturers and economists everywhere have hailed with the greatest delight this advance in wheat, corn, hogs and cotton as presaging a general revival in business. The farmers themselves can

scarcely be more overjoyed at the advance in prices for their crops than are the industrial leaders, who realize that these higher prices for farm products mean greater prosperity for them."

The correlation of farming with business, shaping the latter's attitude toward farm prices, was thus described by George E. Roberts, vice president of the National City Bank of New York: "The proprietors of business of every kind recognize that the farmers constitute the largest single group of consumers and that the general prosperity of the country is largely dependent on their purchasing power. There is no shadow of basis or excuse for the persistent misrepresentation that Big Business or any other kind of business is interested in keeping the farmer in a state of distress. Business is interested in stable, well-balanced prosperity. In all business circles there is spontaneous rejoicing over the recent rise in the prices of farm products, because it means better business for everybody."

Cotton Price

Theo. H. Price, in a review of the cotton situation, in Commerce and Finance for September 17, says: "Taking a common sense view of these few essential figures, there seems to be very little likelihood of a burdensome surplus this season, and without it or some unlooked for calamity, is there any reason why cotton should decline further? The common sense answer to this question appears to be 'No,' and common sense also suggests that manufacturers and consumers of cotton and cotton goods will not go very far wrong in buying what they require at present prices. The market may go a little lower. No one can ever hope to hit the exact bottom, but if he can come within two or three cents of it in the case of a commodity which fluctuates 15 cents in a twelve-month, he will not be doing badly.....The world's textile industry and the world's consumers of cotton goods have hardly commenced eating for yesterday yet. At 22 cents a pound, they may decide to eat for tomorrow as well as for to-day. They will probably be wise if they do, for one swallow does not make a summer, and it is quite possible that the boll weevil may visit the Cotton Belt again in 1925, or that the Southern cotton grower may decide to reduce his acreage when he reflects upon the fact that he will get less for 13,000,000 bales than he obtained for 10,000,000. But there is no certainty that the present crop will reach 13,000,000 bales. The average opinion of 1,169 intelligent observers reporting to this paper is that the presently indicated yield is 12,483,527 bales, not including linters. The average of the estimates of the price that this season's crop should bring is 25.39 cents. This estimate does not pretend to be scientific. It is simply the composite guess of an experienced group which includes manufacturers and merchants as well as growers."

Dawes Plan

Gates W. McGarrah, chairman of the Mechanics and Metals Bank of New York, has been selected as the American director of the new German gold bank of issue to be organized in accordance with the provisions of the Dawes reparation plan. This fact makes the views of his bank, which undoubtedly are in harmony with his own view, of peculiar interest at this time, when so many fears of the plan are being expressed here and abroad. In its end-month

review, prepared before Mr. McGarrah's appointment, the Mechanics and Metals Bank says in part: "The purpose of the reparations agreement is to re-establish Germany as an export nation, so that it can meet its debts. At the start there is no question that products laid down on German wharves from outside will overbalance what is exported. As the reparations plan gets under way, this situation is expected to reverse itself. By this is meant that in the course of time German competition will grow--it will have to do that if the reparations agreement is successful--and it is likely that as Germany and the rest of industrial Europe get back into efficient production, there will be intensified competition in world markets. Broadly speaking, that will be a matter not of weeks or months, but probably years. And, after all, foreign manufacturing activity should magnify the consumption in European countries of American raw products, while, so far as our manufacturing industries are concerned, reviving prosperity in Europe should raise the standard of living there, leveling upward the costs of production more nearly to a parity with our own....The United States is expanded industrially and agriculturally beyond its own domestic requirements, and needs to sell its surplus products in outside markets. Europe has always been, and presumably will be, the chief market for goods of American output. Yet nearly every large state of Europe is now in debt to this country, and contemplates the ultimate settlement of its debt by the export of its goods. We, as time goes on, will seek to export to them while they, to pay their debts, will seek to export to us. The United States counts upon continuing as the world's greatest export nation on balance, and counts at the same time upon being the world's greatest creditor nation. Here is an apparent inconsistency which no other trading nation has yet found a way to reconcile satisfactorily." (Commerce and Finance, Sept.17)

European Conditions

"For the first time since the close of the war I feel that Europe has turned the corner; that she has at last arrested her fateful slide down hill, and that we are now witnessing the beginning of an era of genuine and enduring recuperation." This opinion was expressed by Paul M. Warburg, Chairman of the Board of International Acceptance Bank, Inc., who returned to New York yesterday, after two months in Europe. "The outstanding effect of the acceptance of the Dawes report," said Mr. Warburg, "is that the reparations question has now been taken out of the grip of partisan politicians and placed in the hands of non-partisan judicial experts, acting from a purely economic point of view. The cancer that threatened Europe's very existence has thus been removed. The most hopeful, the most momentous phase in this development is that it signifies the ascendancy, not as an empty theory but in practical application, of the principle of arbitration as against the gospel of 'might is right.'" (N.Y. Times, Sept. 19.)

School Survey in Illinois

The Illinois Agricultural Association Record for September 13 says: "That fully 70 per cent of the community and township school taxes in Illinois is paid by farmers is information disclosed by a report covering an all-summer survey of the Illinois farmers' educational problems made by the Illinois Agricultural

Association in cooperation with the Illinois Educational Commission which was created by the Illinois legislature to go over the entire school situation, make investigations, formulate recommendations and report its findings to the next meeting of the General Assembly. The report, which draws this particular information from the books of county clerks in 35 counties, further shows that although Illinois farmers pay 70 per cent of the school taxes, they furnish but 40 per cent of the high school pupils. The 35 counties where investigations were made represent fully one-half of the community and township high schools in the State. Out of the 100 school districts reported, three districts showed that city people paid more than their proportionate share of the taxes. Only three showed urban and country folks paying equally. In the 94 remaining districts, the farmers paid much more than their share as is indicated by the 70 per cent average for the 100 districts reported upon. Further information will be available when data are summarized on another 100 school districts investigated this summer, although the first 100 is taken as representative of the entire State."

Wheat Profits

A Minneapolis dispatch to the press of September 18 states that with the harvest nearing completion, it is now certain that farmers of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana will make a profit of more than \$50,000,000 on the 1924 spring wheat crop. This sum is five times the amount that to date has been loaned to banks and farmers by the Agricultural Credit Corporation, formed with a capital of \$10,000,000 to assist in relieving the economic distress in the Ninth Federal Reserve district.

World Trade

A Berlin dispatch to the press of September 15 says: "People in this market familiar with foreign trade are of the opinion that the effect on American business of the anticipated European industrial revival, in Germany especially, would be twofold. First, Germany would buy much more American cotton, copper and probably foodstuffs than heretofore; but thereafter, in order to pay interest on her foreign credits, the country would be compelled to stimulate export of manufactures and thereby probably compete with America in certain branches. The real difficulty of the case is seen in other European markets' inability to take largely increased German exports without proportionately reducing their purchases from America."

A Paris dispatch says: "The view of financial Paris as to the probable commercial result of a really great revival in European industry is that it would first cause a greatly increased demand for raw material from America. This, however, would, according to French opinion, be followed by greatly enlarged export of manufactured goods to the other markets of the world, a movement whose effect the United States would certainly feel, being the country with the largest producing capacity."

A London dispatch says: "In any general European revival such as is certainly expected, although of gradual development, America is regarded as likely to be distinctly benefited, not only because she possesses so much of what the world needs in reconstruction, but because of the call which she ought to have upon European creditors arising out of her foreign loan operations."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 18: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10. for the top and \$8.90 to \$10. for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.60; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.75; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$8.25; light and medium weight veal calves \$3.50 to \$11.75.

New Jersey Irish Cobbler potatoes sold at \$1.35 to \$1.65 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.20 to \$1.25 f.o.b. Green Mountains mostly \$1.35 to \$1.50; \$1.15 to \$1.20 f.o.b. Eastern and midwestern yellow onions ranged \$1.75 to \$2.50 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.50 to \$1.75 f.o.b. at New York and Indiana shipping points. Cabbage weaker. New York domestic type mostly \$15 to \$18 bulk per ton; \$7 to \$9 f.o.b. Rochester, N.Y. Eastern Grime apples \$1.50 to \$2. Delaware Jonathans \$1.75 to \$2. Pennsylvania and New Jersey Elberta peaches steady to stronger at \$2 to \$3 per bushel basket in eastern cities. Colorado Elbertas steady in Chicago at \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 37 1/4¢; Boston 38¢; Chicago 37¢; Philadelphia 38 1/4¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 18: No.1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.32 to \$1.47 1/2. No.2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.41 to \$1.43; Kansas City \$1.35 to \$1.37. No.2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.30; St. Louis \$1.27; Kansas City \$1.19 to \$1.24 1/2. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.15 1/2 to \$1.16; Minneapolis \$1.14 1/4 to \$1.14 3/4. No.2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.14 3/4 to \$1.15; Minneapolis \$1.10 1/4 to \$1.10 3/4. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.14 to \$1.15; Minneapolis \$1.13 1/4 to \$1.13 3/4; St. Louis \$1.13. No.3 white oats Chicago 46 3/4 to 48¢; Minneapolis 45 1/4 to 45 1/2¢; St. Louis 48 to 49¢; No.2 white oats Kansas City 49 1/2¢. No.2 white corn Kansas City \$1.09 1/2; No.3 white corn Chicago \$1.14; St. Louis \$1.15.

Spot cotton down 85 points, closing at 21.42¢ per lb. New York October future contracts down 83 points, closing at 22.25¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept.18,	Sept.17,	Sept.18,1923
	20 Industrials	103.42	103.49	88.49
	20 R.R.stocks	89.69	89.97	78.07
(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 19.)				

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 69

Section 1

September 20, 1924

World Farm Conference Discussed A Springfield, Mass., dispatch to the New York Times to-day says: "Dr. A. W. Gilbert, Massachusetts Commissioner of Agriculture, who is at the Eastern States Exposition this week, September 19 told of plans for bringing together world leaders in all lines of agriculture at some American university next July for a month's school of instruction and discussion of problems of cooperation in agriculture. Dr. Gilbert is chairman of the committee that will arrange for the meeting, which he believes should be held in New England. The committee has held three meetings, at the last of which, in Cleveland, Dr. Gilbert was made chairman."

Dawes on Agriculture A press dispatch from Sioux Falls, S. D., chronicling General Dawes's political address there last night, reports him on the agricultural situation as follows: "General Dawes recapitulated his statements in his Lincoln speech relative to the problem of how equality in earning capacity can be secured between agriculture and industry. Agricultural distress was general before the recent increase in prices, due to natural laws, he said, and its cause must be fundamental and there could be a real one. Expansion in wheat production in Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska, was one cause of the trouble, he said. In fruit, also, there was a tendency to ignore domestic consumptive demand. Our production costs were higher in all lines, the General said, while cooperative marketing was still an uncertain method in its infancy."

Crops to Open Minnesota Banks A St. Paul dispatch to the press to-day states that approximately 25 closed banks in Minnesota may be reopened before January 1, reflecting excellent crops and good prices received by farmers, A. J. Veigal, State superintendent of banks, announced September 19. The banking situation in the State has much improved, he added, good crops helping materially.

Cars for Big Crops Although prospects are that there will be a record-breaking crop movement this fall, railroads of the Nation are in record-breaking condition to handle such a movement, the car service division reported September 19 to directors of the American Railway Association. The present location of box-car equipment on western roads is described as the best that ever has existed in the records of the car-service division. "It is our belief," said the report, "that the movement of agricultural crops in the western territory will be taken care of without difficulty this year." All demands for refrigerator cars for the movement of perishable traffic are said to have been met without any shortages up to this time. The Santa Fe and Southern Pacific Railroads alone have an aggregate of 32,778 refrigerator cars on their lines, 7,021 more than they had at this period in 1923. (Press, Sept. 20.)

Section 2

Agricultural

Credit Corpora-
tion

Glenn Griswold, Chicago correspondent of The Philadelphia Ledger, writing in the issue for September 17, says: "The passing of the Agricultural Credit Corporation, which is now going into liquidation, demonstrates two things most forcibly: First, that the one sane and practical way of helping agricultural communities in a credit crisis is to enable them to help themselves; the other, that the summer advance in farm product prices has been of great and immediate help to agriculture when measured in dollars and cents.... When the corporation was formed, the Northwest was reporting from one to five bank failures a day and every failure brought about another. Communities were in hysteria and, as a result, whole counties were without banking facilities. The corporation was a voluntary one, in which the banks credited with its organization played a small part outside of supervision. Twenty-five per cent of its \$10,000,000 capital was furnished by banks, 25 per cent by railroads and the remaining 50 per cent by large industrial and mercantile institutions intimately interested in business conditions in the Northwest.... In all its experience the corporation has not sustained a single loss. It is virtually certain that the 6 per cent interest charged on loans will pay the operating costs of the corporation, and those who contributed its capital will be out nothing except interest on their money, although some small losses should be expected before liquidation is completed.... Thus passes the last of the artificial agencies erected to rescue agriculture from the evils of 1921's deflation. The experience of agriculture during the next few months will have much to do with determining whether the more or less professional demand for a permanent rescue agency--a price-fixing and business-regulating bureau--will be demanded by agriculture, if, indeed, agriculture is willing to accept such a gift by the next crop season."

Butter Market

An editorial in The Dairy Record for September 10 says: "It has only been within the last year or two that the city man has come to realize that his welfare is linked very closely with the prosperity of the farmer, and that the farmer has discovered that his financial returns are dependent largely upon favorable industrial conditions. However, it is not so generally understood by American farmers that business conditions in other parts of the world directly affect them. In the face of higher markets, Great Britain to-day is consuming more butter than it did last year. The same thing is true of Germany. As a result, American markets offer no attraction to Danish butter exporters and our already sensitive market is not further weakened by heavy shipments from abroad. With conditions in European countries gradually improving, we believe that foreign butter will, more and more, cease to be a factor in our American markets. As we see it, our big problem will be the more economic production of butterfat and an extension of our home markets for butter."

Chicago's Cotton

Futures Market

Theo. H. Price, writing in Commerce and Finance for September 17 on futures markets and future contracts, says: "In New York and New Orleans there is no longer any fear that the

business of the older exchanges will suffer because Chicago has decided to have a cotton market of its own. On the contrary, it is now believed that history will repeat itself and that the business of all the exchanges will grow because of the increased attention that will be drawn to cotton. Meantime the arbitrageurs in New York and New Orleans are sharpening their pencils and trying to figure out at what differences it will be profitable to buy or sell Galveston and Houston contracts in Chicago and make the converse transaction in another market."

Dutch Cooperative Loss

The New York Times of September 19 states that the cooperative organizations in Holland have received a heavy blow owing to the financial difficulties of the Handelskammer in Rotterdam. The Handelskammer is a cooperative wholesale trading body, which supplies the various retail trade cooperative organizations, spread all over the country. Such cooperative unions as are members of the Handelskammer participate in the profits of that body, says the European Commercial of Vienna. The recent economic crisis has resulted in heavy losses for the Handelskammer. The State is greatly interested in the Handelskammer, owing to the fact that in 1919 it was decided that the Government should guarantee its drafts, which were discounted by the Netherland Bank. This guarantee was granted to an amount of 3,000,000 florins. For the year 1922 the Handelskammer had to admit a heavy loss, partly owing to the difficulties of cooperative unions, which were among its debtors. The Government had to face the problem of recovering its losses for the amount guaranteed.

Family Diet

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for September 12 says: "The National Dairy Exposition has established a new department which will devote itself to instructing visitors how to feed the family. This new department is being developed by H. E. Van Norman, president of the National Dairy Show Association....A demonstration and exhibit as to how to prepare a proper diet for the family is a commendable piece of work and one that should interest every visitor at the National Dairy Show."

Farmer Needs

An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for September 13 says: "What are the great economic needs of the American farmers to-day? The farmer does not get a square deal from Government, and this is true, not only because of the antagonism of other classes, but also because farmers themselves do not think seriously enough about their economic and political problems, and hence do not have a strongly convinced rural public opinion back of rural demands. Farmers need to formulate rather closely in their own minds the objectives toward which they should work in Washington. One thoughtful student of agricultural problems, Carl S. Vrooman, formerly Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, summarizes his own views by saying that 'the farmer has four imperative major requirements, none of which conflicts with the legitimate interests of any other class; which he lists as follows: 1. Foreign markets for the farmer's surplus crops. 2. Lower freight rates on the bulky, cheap commodities that he sells and buys, such as hay, cotton, grain, lumber, coal, fertilizer, and

agricultural implements. 3. An agricultural system of banking and credit that shall be as well adapted to the needs of agriculture as is our present system to the needs of business. 4. Governmental encouragement in the necessarily slow process of building up a system of cooperative marketing on a sound financial and economic basis."

Potato Marketing A Morgantown dispatch to Manufacturers Record of September 18 says: "Largely as a result of cooperative growing and cooperative marketing stimulus is being given to the production of potatoes in West Virginia. For many years it has imported its potatoes, but with certified seed potatoes being used the product and the grade is becoming such that the State is increasing the crop for its own use and for shipment to other States. The West Virginia Potato Growers' Cooperative Association is an important factor in marketing the product and in seeing that only the best grades are shipped. The organization consists of farmers in about 14 counties of the State, and it expects to control 150,000 bushels, or 250 cars, this year, 65 cars already having been sold."

Prices 1 The American Cooperative Journal for September says: "A recent bulletin of the Department of Agriculture said: 'The financial position of farmers as measured by the exchange value of their products for non-agricultural commodities including clothing, fuel, metals, building materials and house furnishings is gradually working toward a pre-war parity. The combined exchange value of sixteen leading farm products for non-agricultural commodities on August 1 was 83 as an index number as compared with the 1913 base of 100. This is the highest point reached in 47 months, and is the result of the recent rise in grain prices coincident with a fall in prices of non-agricultural products.' This, of course, is a generalization and an optimistic one. It does not meet all the facts in the situation. Undoubtedly, there is still much lacking before prosperity is reached in the agricultural industry and there is small use in blinking that fact. Much must be done in a legislative and administrative way before the agricultural industry is put on the plane where it belongs. There is comfort for the farmer, at least before election, in the idea that the three contenders for the presidency subscribe to that fact."

2 An editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for September 13 says: "The entire business world is greatly interested in the strengthening of farm prices. In fact, the entire business world is feeling the direct effects. Many dealers will have a great increase in their business with farmers and manufacturers will enjoy greater activity. The future looks quite encouraging. A steady improvement all along the business path is indicated. Foreign trade is due for a great increase, now that the Dawes plan of reparations has been accepted, and this will greatly strengthen domestic trade. Is there any likelihood of anything interfering with the return to normal business? There is. Strange to say it is likely to come from the very people who are most anxious for more business. We refer to the price booster. We recently talked with

a manufacturer of farm machinery. He said business was improving, but that he feared the price booster would knock business in the head by discouraging buying. A prominent banker says: 'The encouraging side of the price situation is that the spread between the prices of farm products and the general level of prices has been less each month of this year than it was in the corresponding months of 1923. The downward movement of the prices of manufactured products is establishing a new relationship. A return to the pre-war situation is not in prospect, though we do find a better balanced condition. Price maladjustments do not make for sustained 'prosperity for all economic groups.' A year ago we talked with a leading plow manufacturer. He reported good business prospects, but declared the price would have to advance 10 per cent. We urged him not to advance prices, but he insisted he had to do it to make good his losses. He made the advance, his business went flat and he had another bad year. Manufacturers and material men must realize that farmers have also been suffering heavy losses. Price boosts at this time are short-sighted. Boosting the price every time an order for material is received is the surest way to retard prosperity."

Wheat Exportation

New York Commercial for September 19 says: "Can the wheat growers of the United States continue to garner prosperity by exporting wheat? That is a question which they should carefully consider. One thing is certain. Only about one-seventh of the whole wheat production of the world is sold outside the countries growing that grain. The foreign markets are eagerly sought by Canada, Australia, South Africa, India, and to some extent Russia. The three first named countries have comparatively small populations and potentially great wheat growing capabilities. What is more, it costs less to produce wheat in Australia and South Africa than in Canada or the United States. The tendency of the future will be for Canada, South Africa and Australia to grow constantly increasing crops of wheat. Our producers this year are able to export that grain to advantage, but this is due to crop failures in competing countries--a condition that may not exist again in a long time. The future is not rosy with promise for the American farmers who expect to prosper on grain sold abroad at high prices. The home market is their 'best bet' because it is their market exclusively, thanks to a tariff that will act to keep cheap foreign grain from coming here. As things stand there is no move that the wheat growers of the United States could make which would serve them as well as that one which has for its main purpose the feeding of the people of this country only. If they try to grow grain for export they will only demoralize this market and find themselves undersold abroad. That condition spells disaster for them. They know from the experience of the last two years just how great that disaster can be."

Wool Market

A Boston dispatch to the press to-day states that there does not appear to have been any general advance in wool during the week, despite the marked rise on the foreign market, but wool is stronger at Boston than it was a week ago and sells in spots at higher figures.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 19: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.10 for the top; \$8.90 to \$9.90 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.50 to \$10.50; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$7.75; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.25; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

New Jersey Cobbler potatoes \$1.35-1.55 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.20-1.25 f.o.b. Northern sacked Round Whites weak in Chicago at \$1.15-1.25 carlot sales. Eastern Shore of Virginia yellow varieties of sweet potatoes \$4.50 to \$6 per barrel. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$2 per bushel hamper in Chicago. New York and midwestern yellow varieties of onions \$2 to \$2.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.50-1.75 f.o.b. at New York and Indiana shipping points. New York domestic type cabbage \$12 to \$18 bulk per ton; \$7 to \$9 f.o.b. Rochester, New York. New York Wealthy apples \$1.50-1.75 per bushel basket in eastern cities, top of \$2.25 in New York; \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester. New Jersey and Pennsylvania Elberta peaches generally stronger at \$2.25-3.00 per bushel basket in eastern cities.

Closing wholesale prices, 92 score butter: New York 37 1/2¢; Boston 38¢; Chicago 37¢; Philadelphia 38 1/2¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets September 18: Twins 20 1/4¢; Single Daisies 20 3/4¢; Double Daisies 20 1/4¢; Longhorns 21 1/2¢; Square Prints 23¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 19: No.1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.33 1/2-to \$1.49 1/2. No.2 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.36 1/2 to \$1.37; St. Louis \$1.43 to \$1.44. No.3 red winter wheat Kansas City \$1.32. No.2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.32 1/2; St. Louis \$1.28 1/2 to \$1.31; Kansas City \$1.20 1/2 to \$1.32. No.2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.16 3/4 to \$1.17; Minneapolis \$1.10 to 1.10 1/2. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.16 3/4 to \$1.17 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.13. Kansas City \$1.10. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.15 3/4 to \$1.16 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.12 to \$1.12 1/2; St. Louis \$1.14. No.3 white oats Chicago 47 1/2 to 48 3/4 cents; Minneapolis 45 1/8 to 45 3/8 cents; St. Louis 49 to 51 cents; Kansas City 48 1/2 cents. No. 2 white corn Kansas City \$1.10. No.3 white corn Chicago \$1.16; St. Louis \$1.14 to \$1.16.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 24 points, closing at 21.68¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 37 points, closing at 22.62¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept.19,	Sept.18,	Sept.19, 1923
	20 Industrials	103.63	103.42	89.17
	20 R. R. stocks	89.60	89.69	78.48

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 20.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 70

Section 1

September 22, 1924

Wheat Exports

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day states that in the grain trade it is estimated that around 100,000,000 bushels of wheat, nearly one-eighth of the estimated crop, have been bought for export so far, of which 25,000,000 have been cleared in the last few weeks. A shortage in Canada has benefitted the American farmer, who has taken advantage of the higher prices and since July 1 has marketed 190,000,000 bushels at primary points, compared with 135,000,000 last year. Exports so far this season have far exceeded last year's. The wheat market has reached a point where accumulations of supplies are creating timidity among speculators who have been carrying the million of bushels of hedges against cash wheat, and a continued heavy foreign demand is regarded as necessary to sustain values around the present level.

Canada's Wheat Exports

Figures for the Canadian exports of wheat during the eleven months of the crop year ended in July, made public by the Canadian Pacific Railway, show that the Dominion shipped out 281,000,000 bushels, an increase of 63,000,000 bushels over the quantity for the corresponding months of last year. It is pointed out that shipments to the United States were 21,340,000 bushels, as compared with 12,215,000 for the same months in the preceding year. Of the 260,000,000 bushels shipped to countries other than the United States, nearly 139,000,000 bushels went through American ports, indicating the extent to which they benefit by a large Canadian crop. (Press, Sept. 21.)

Italy's Grain Imports

The Corriere Mercantile of Milan estimates that during the twelve months ended with July, 1924, there were delivered at Italian ports only 2,815,253 metric tons of grain, as compared with 4,188,816 in the previous corresponding period. Wheat deliveries fell from 3,370,969 to 2,306,816. (Press, Sept. 22.)

Financial Conditions in Northwest

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day states that a better tone is noticeable in the line of collections and money is easy with all banks in all agricultural regions. In the Northwest the credit banks started months ago to relieve farmers and have now practically closed up their business, as larger crops and better yields per acre are putting farmers on an improved financial basis. Call money in Chicago ranged between 2 1/2 and 3 per cent with time funds largely 4 to 5 per cent. Supplies of currency in agricultural regions are ample despite the heavy marketing of grains in the last two months. This change has been made gradually since operations of the Federal Reserve Bank became effective, which has revolutionized the banking and crop moving system of financing so that there is no disturbance of business or interest rates.

Section 2

Agriculture

The Journal of Commerce for September 20 says: "It is by no means impossible that the recent increases in agricultural prices which have been so widely acclaimed by certain politicians as the fruit of their labor will in the end prove more of a liability than an asset to the farmers of this country. They are the result of fortuitous combinations of causes which can not be expected to continue long in existence. Meantime they are not unlikely to lull the agricultural producer into a false sense of security and probably lead him to permit conditions which are basically responsible for the difficulties under which he has been laboring for a good while past to continue without adequate attention. That some such outcome of the existing situation is not altogether improbable is evidenced rather strikingly, for instance, by the attitude adopted of late by the campaign managers of the sundry political parties... As things have turned out the wheat farmer and the producers of other farm products have been too busy most of the summer shipping their output at highly profitable prices or counting profits which are (it is hoped) soon to come to them to give much thought to measures which are needed if a reasonable opportunity for profit is to be assured for the forthcoming years."

Agriculture in
Bankers'
Association

An announcement of the American Bankers Association, to convene in Chicago September 29, states that this year's convention will present an agricultural exhibit demonstrating the work of the agricultural commission of the association, and showing the results that have been obtained from the commission's campaign during the year for the promotion of better livestock, the development of orderly marketing, encouragement of crop diversification and the fostering of boys' and girls' club work on the farms. The commission has held conferences in forty-seven States in this connection.

British Cotton
Trade with
Germany

The Journal of Commerce for September 20 says: "British proposals for the negotiation of a commercial treaty with Germany along the lines of the proposed Franco-German agreement appear to be prompted by fear of the effect of the latter pact upon the British cotton goods trade, according to advices to the Commerce Department September 19 from London. Reporting to the department on the Lancashire cotton trade's interest in the proposed Franco-German treaty, Acting Commercial Attache Hugh D. Butler said that the agreement is of some concern to the finishing department of the British cotton trade. He explained that French goods have already been enjoying a decided advantage over British goods in the matter of entry into Germany."

Butter Tariff

The Journal of Commerce for September 19 says: "It is more than likely that the dairy interests who are having a good deal to say about the tariff on butter are well enough aware that there is small likelihood of any change in the duties in question in the early future. What may happen after the election is another story, but for the immediate present a glance at the results or rather the lack of results in the sugar situation is sufficient to put to rest any fears or hopes that any may hold of alterations of existing butter rates. But whether the butter situation is viewed in

its immediate aspects or otherwise there is not the slightest reason to suppose that the operations of the so-called flexible tariff provisions of the existing law will or, for that matter, can arrive at any just solution of such problems as those involved in the case in question. The law as it stands does not permit the Tariff Commission to take into consideration at all many of the most important matters, and it is more than doubtful if it could do very much good work under any law that could be devised. This, of course, is in essence an old story to those who have given the subject careful and unbiased study."

Cooperation in
British Do-
minions

An editorial on "Agricultural Cooperation in the Empire" at the British Empire exhibition at Wembley, in The Journal of the (British) Ministry of Agriculture for September, says: "The conference at Wembley has indeed only emphasized what has been becoming increasingly clear in the last few years, namely, that the relation of producers overseas to their markets is undergoing a profound change. The overseas producers appear to be firmly convinced that, in the sale of their produce, they must, in some manner, have the advantage of mass selling which is enjoyed by every other industry, and, further, that they can only attain that advantage cooperatively. It is true that the Dominion representatives spoke of supplementing, rather than of competing with, supplies produced here at home, but it is clear that so long as the system of selling in this country is essentially competitive, large-scale operations designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the machinery for marketing overseas' supplies in this country may have important reactions in the home market which the British farmer will sooner or later have to face....The Government, as is now well known, recognizes the great importance of the economic organization of the agricultural industry, especially as regards the marketing of produce, and, through the Ministry of Agriculture, is prepared to advance money on favorable terms to cooperative enterprises organized mainly for that purpose. In addition, the Agricultural Credits act provides facilities which will enable agriculturists who will cooperate for that purpose to obtain credit to meet such expenses as the purchase of seeds, fertilizers, feeding stuffs, etc. Much is also hoped from the careful and intensive survey which the Ministry of Agriculture is about to undertake of the whole region of marketing and its associated problems. These are important aids, which should facilitate such constructive work as may, in future, be put in hand by farmers themselves."

Egyptian Government . A Cairo dispatch to the press of September 19 states that to Buy Cotton the Egyptian Government will make purchases of spot cotton in the future to the extent of 2,000,000 kantars if necessary, the Minister of Agriculture declared September 18, replying to a deputation urging that the Government intervene in the cotton market.

Farmers'
Cooperatives

An editorial in The New York Times for September 20 says: "Senator La Follette says, 'I personally have always stood for the principle and the development of cooperation. It is a principle inseparable from progressivism.' That will attract to the Senator

the votes of all who admit his claim to monopoly of merit for favoring agricultural cooperation, and who are incensed by the opposition of other parties. Who are they? Is it possible that any man or party can now claim especial or peculiar credit for favoring agricultural cooperation since the particular exception of farmers' trusts from the anti-trust laws? Are there not thousands of what would be called trusts of farmers but for their specific exception from that classification by law? Has there not been official report of the failures of hundreds of such combinations not for profit and not in restraint of trade? Were such farmers' combines exempt from the deflation which was considered a grievance by individual farmers who misjudged the market? On the contrary, 7,428 corporations engaged in sundry agricultural operations made reports in the fateful 1921, and neither the fact that they were cooperatives nor that they were lawful exempted them from the common reaction. Of these cooperatives of farmers 2,684 paid \$5,099,504 taxes on \$34,266,175 profits. But 4,744 reported deficits of \$63,334,243. That the majority of these agricultural finance adventures made a net loss is nothing against the principle. The farmers' cooperatives lost money because the market favored buyers. They will probably make money this year because the market favors sellers of foodstuffs. The reverse is true of the cotton cooperatives, which seem to face a trying year after good years."

Forestry in Maine

An editorial in New England Homestead for September 13 says: "The State of Maine will be wise if it adopts the newest idea in forests, which now is being talked about. Throughout that State are thousands of acres of cut-over lands from which the timber was long since removed and useless brush is growing in its place. With some planting of trees and a little care such areas in time may develop good forest. To this end such lands may well be acquired at nominal prices by the State as such, to be cared for by Maine's State forestry service. This plan is being operated satisfactorily by the State of Massachusetts, which pays \$3 to \$5 an acre for brush land. Its area of State forest is being enlarged gradually, is under careful supervision and specially safeguarded against fire. Under suitable restrictions such forests serve as public parks and as conservers of the water supply. These social functions of State forests are highly regarded by the public, while experience shows that as the years go on such forests will afford a substantial net revenue. Each of the Eastern States is considering favorably this policy. Supplemented by town forests, which are becoming a feature of our thrifty New England townships, and by national forests in White Mountain preserves, real progress is being made in solving the forestry problems."

French Living Costs

An Associated Press dispatch from Paris September 19 states that the cost of living in France has reached such heights that for the second consecutive Thursday the weekly session of the cabinet, presided over by Premier Herriot, was devoted to the situation. The cabinet decided to close bakeries every Sunday and butcher shops one day each week. It was decided to reduce customs duties on condensed milk 66 per cent; rice and barley, 60 per cent; dressed

pork, 50 per cent; cheese, 50 per cent; butter, 60 per cent; vegetables and preserves, 50 per cent of the actual tariff duties.

Russia Buying Cotton

The New York Times for September 20 says: "Soviet Russia continues to be one of the largest direct purchasers of American cotton this year. The All-Russian Textile Syndicate, Inc., which is the American branch of the Russian organization representing Russian textile manufacturing cooperatives, announced that it had started shipping cotton of the new American crop and that if the volume of purchases of old and new crop cotton made already this year was a good indication of future commitments they would reach \$100,000,000 by next January. Not all of this amount is expected to be delivered by that time, however, but about 50 per cent of this estimated total has already been contracted for by the syndicate."

Sugar Beet Industry in Britain

The Journal of the (British) Ministry of Agriculture for September says: "The Government's proposals in respect of the sugar beet industry, as recently announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, are briefly as follows:-A direct subsidy will be given from the Exchequer on sugar produced from home-grown beet, to the amount of 19s. 6d. per cwt. for four years, including the present year, then 13s. per cwt. for three years, and 6s. 6d. per cwt. for a further three years. The excise duty, from which the home producer is at present exempt, will be reimposed. The net effect of these proposals will be to give the home sugar industry a total advantage of 21s. 5d. over foreign imported sugars, instead of 11s. 8d., as at present; an advantage which can be very little affected by any further reduction in the sugar duty. The industry will now know exactly what it will receive by way of State assistance over the whole period of ten years, and, with the removal of any uncertainty as to the future, the factor which has, up to the present, been largely responsible for retarding the development of the industry will disappear. The Government considers that, with this assistance, the manufacturers should be able to pay the farmer during the first four years of the subsidy period not less than 44s. a ton for beet of 15 1/2 per cent sugar content delivered to a factory, and this condition will be attached to the subsidy. In actual fact it should be possible with sugar at its present price for a good grower to earn at least 50s. a ton for his beet under the contract system which is in force at existing factories, and he would benefit by any rise in the price of sugar. With a fixed minimum price the farmer will be insured against a serious fall in the price of sugar, and the inexperienced grower will be able to reckon on a sufficient return during the period in which he is learning how to increase his yield and improve the quality of his crop."

Wool Prices

Cabled reports of the auction sales of colonial wools in London during the past week were all to the effect that demand was keen and that there was an advance in prices over those of the previous sales. Cross-bred wools were in especial request and values on them were better upheld than on other kinds. (Press, Sept. 21)

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS
(WEEKLY REVIEW)

Farm Products

Chicago hog prices for week ended September 20, 1924, ranged from 20 to 30¢ lower than a week ago. Medium and good beef steers 10 to 50¢ lower; butcher cows and heifers steady to 25¢ lower; feeder steers steady to 65¢ lower; light and medium weight veal calves steady to 25¢ higher.

Potatoes generally 10 to 25¢ lower. Northern Sacked Round Whites \$1.05-1.20 carlot sales in Chicago, mostly 85¢ to 90¢ f.o.b. Waupaca, Wisconsin. Onions irregular. Cabbage weakened in most markets. Apples firm in the East, slightly weaker in the Middle West. Peaches steady to firm. Colorado Salmon Tint cantaloupes irregular.

Butter markets irregular and unsettled. Outcome of storage situation is of growing concern. Firm foreign situation is supporting factor.

Cheese markets firm and active during the week. Considerable buying at primary markets by southern trade. Price advances occurred during the week under the influence of the active demand.

Grain market unsettled with weaker tone. Wheat futures sagged with the decline in corn, rallied but closed lower. Good export demand chief sustaining factor. Corn sharply lower as season advances with serious frost damage. Oats weaker with corn. Cash demand fair for corn, good for other grains.

Hay market weaker. Receipts principal markets about equal to those same time last year but demand limited. Low grades all kinds of hay hard to sell. Timothy weaker with lower prices at Boston, New York and Chicago. Alfalfa barely steady. Low grade damaged alfalfa burdensome at Kansas City. Prairie weaker most markets on liberal receipts.

Millfeed market little easier with more sellers than buyers in evidence. No great selling pressure from West. Transit offerings light. Linseed meal fairly firm with resellers offering small amounts at about 50 cents under mill quotations. Cottonseed meal very dull with southern shippers offering small reductions in order to stimulate business. Wheatfeeds in excellent supply and storage stocks are heavy. Hominy feed dull, offerings small, demand quiet. Production all feeds good. Movement fair.

Average price of middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 9 points during the week. New York October future contracts unchanged. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 20,	Sept. 19,	Sept. 20, 1923
	20 Industrials	103.85	103.63	88.16
	20 R.R. stocks	89.81	89.60	78.36

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 22.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 71

Section 1

September 23, 1924

Farm Bonds

The Federal Farm Loan Board yesterday announced flotation of the first bond issue for the intermediate credit banks for the 1924 marketing season. The issue was \$10,000,000, and was sold by the board's fiscal agent, Charles E. Lobdell, to a group of commercial banks. The issue, a statement by Commissioner Cooper announced, bears interest 4 1/2 per cent, but was sold on a basis that will yield the holders 3.25 per cent for the six months of the securities' life. Commissioner Cooper said virtually the entire proceeds of the issue would be used in financing cooperative marketing associations in handling products of their members.

Bread Price

An Atlantic City dispatch to the press to-day states that notwithstanding the rise in the cost of wheat the standard price of the pound loaf of bread throughout the United States will remain 10 cents, with but little probability of any increase, even though wheat should go still higher. This was the official declaration at Atlantic City September 22 of representatives of 80 per cent of the bakers in the United States, gathered for the twenty-seventh annual convention of the American Bakers' Association. It also was asserted that the long-standing war between the wheat growers and the bakers has ended, that the sanitation problem in bakeries has been solved, and that the next movement will be a gigantic advertising program throughout the country, demonstrating to the public the excellence of the modern bakery output. In this connection association officials pointed out that whereas five years ago 70 per cent of housewives, dissatisfied with the then imperfect bakery products, baked at home, at this time only about 25 per cent do so.

Egyptian Cotton

A London dispatch to the press to-day states that an agency dispatch from Cairo states that cotton prices advanced 80 points Saturday in consequence of purchases on account of the Egyptian Government. A Cairo dispatch on Friday last said the Egyptian Minister of Agriculture had not definitely declined to intervene in the cotton futures market, although a committee had reported that the Government was prepared, if necessary, to place large orders. Action was unlikely, it was added, as prices had already stiffened on the mere announcement of possible governmental intervention.

Grain Exports

Exports of grain from the United States last week totaled 11,073,000 bushels, against 8,259,000 bushels for the previous week. The figures for last week as compared with the previous week were made public by the Commerce Department to-day as follows: Barley 367,000 bushels, against 464,000; corn 91,000, against 41,000; oats 38,000, against 113,000; rye 2,825,000, against 1,779,000; wheat 7,752,000, against 5,862,000, United States and Canadian wheat flour in transit, 423,000 barrels against 319,000 barrels. (Press, Sept. 23.)

Section 2

British Beet

Sugar Industry

An editorial in The Economic World for September 20 says: "Among the rather numerous recent evidences of a disposition on the part of the present Government of Great Britain to enter upon economic and financial courses that are widely at variance with the traditional policies of the country was the announcement made in the middle of August to the effect that the Government is contemplating the establishment of a bounty for the British beet sugar industry. This project is briefly discussed as follows by The Economist, London, in its issue of August 23: 'The Minister of Agriculture announced this week that he proposes to offer a bounty to the beet sugar industry of this country. The Government proposal is to offer 19s. 6d. per hundredweight to the manufacturer for the first four years, 13s. for the next three years, and 6s. 6d. for a further three years on condition that the manufacturer pays the farmer not less than 44s. per ton. This last clause is an essential part of the scheme, for beet sugar production can not develop unless the farmer has some inducement to take up what is for most British agriculturists a new form of production. In general, subsidies to particular industries at the expense of the taxpayer are economically objectionable, because they encourage producers to look to the Government to help them out of their troubles instead of relying on their own enterprise and efficiency. Like protection, they are a means of keeping out the invigorating breezes of competition. But if any industries are to be subsidized, the beet sugar industry is one of the very few that can make out a case for this sort of assistance. Practically ever since commercial methods of producing sugar from sugar beet were discovered, the industry in European countries has been given various forms of Government assistance, directly or indirectly, and the exports from each country were carried on under highly artificial conditions in which the various Governments' competed with one another in offering export bounties. Under these conditions for many decades sugar consumers in Great Britain and a large group of sugar-using industries greatly benefited from very cheap sugar; but it was impossible for the manufacturer of beet sugar to start in this country in competition with the fully-equipped industries of the Continent. These conditions afford an argument for giving in this country some help during the period of infancy to an industry whose birth has been so long delayed. In the circumstances the method of a subsidy is far preferable to that of using the tariff as a means of protection. The Nation sees exactly what sacrifices are to be made; the fact that the subsidy appears as a charge on the Budget means that the period of these payments is not likely to be unduly prolonged, and the likelihood of the principle being extended to other trades is small if every industry which seeks for a subsidy has to make out a special case for dipping its hands into the taxpayer's pocket. Even the present proposal will be examined with a very critical eye. It can only be justified if the Minister can give convincing reasons for thinking that in a few years the industry will be able to stand alone. In these days of straightened finances we can not afford the luxury of trying experiments.'"

Butter Surplus

An editorial in Chicago Dairy Produce for September 16 says: "The strangest thing in connection with the big surplus of butter already in storage in this country and the prospects for an unusually heavy winter make is that no one appears to be excited about it. The facts are known but their significance have not been considered seriously. We have pointed out ways in which demand can be increased enough to take care of this year's surplus, and among these was the suggestion that the creamerymen work with the farmers to get them to consume butter....We suggest that creamerymen give more attention to their home market, which many creamerymen are neglecting. Many of them make no effort for a home demand and many more are indifferent to the home demand that comes to them. This demand should be encouraged and every effort made to increase it....One recent suggestion is the forming of a pool to include United States and Canada dealers, who would export a definite quantity of butter to Europe, taking a chance on the loss--it being next to certain that the butter would have to be sold at a loss. The idea hasn't a strong appeal, and it isn't likely that it will be followed. Some appeals have lately been made to the officers of the National Dairy Council to adjust its work to bring butter into greater prominence and thereby increase the per capita consumption....We believe that the most can be accomplished in the shortest time if the creamerymen will make a strong effort to increase home consumption demand and if dealers will enter into a campaign of publicity that will let consumers in the city know that butter is a basic and a cheap food. We won't need to consign butter to Europe with the certainty that it will be sold at a loss."

Canadian Wheat
Marketing

The Northwest Farmstead for September 15 says: "'It is safe to say, taking the Canadian system all around, it presents a more generally satisfactory machine for the handling, transportation and sale of grain than any other in existence.' This is the concluding sentence of a bulletin of 123 pages on 'Marketing Canadian Wheat,' by Theo. D. Hammatt, special agent of the United States Department of Commerce. A reading of this carefully prepared bulletin certainly sustains the conclusion. It reviews the fight of Canadian farmers, who, 20 years ago, were subject to fully as great robbery in the form of short weights, excessive dockage and undergrading as ever were the farmers of the United States. It tells of the legislation they have obtained and the methods they have adopted in handling and marketing their wheat. It contains information that should be of value to every American wheat grower, for in Canada, certainly, their wheat marketing machine in almost every respect is far in advance of that in the United States."

Citrus Foreign
Trade

The Florida Times-Union for September 18 says: "That the Florida Citrus Exchange has been reaching out into the inviting field of foreign trade in citrus fruits for some time is known to all our readers interested in the prosperity of the State. A demand already exists abroad which can be expanded rapidly by making the people of the United Kingdom and Europe better acquainted with these fruits and--quite as important--improving the facilities for adequate service. For the latter purpose, rapid refrigerator service

from Florida ports to those of the United Kingdom and the European continent is an imperative necessity. Our senior Senator, Durcan U. Fletcher, has been working indefatigably to that end as included in the larger purpose of preventing the attempts of our powerful rivals of the North Atlantic ports to strangle the growing commerce of the South Atlantic and Gulf ports. At the luncheon held Monday at the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce rooms, Senator Fletcher urged that Jacksonville go into the conference called by the Shipping Board for October 7 'in a most prepared manner.' It will need the keenest minds this city can send there to meet in equal conflict the subtle arguments of those determined not to share the commerce of the northern ports with those of the southern seaboards, for they want not only that which comes naturally to them, but also that of the South, the Middle West and the Far West, which can more profitably be sent through the ports of the South Atlantic and the Gulf....The project to establish a direct, fast service by refrigerator passenger and cargo ships from Florida ports to those of the Old World whereby our citrus products could be delivered speedily to the latter must depend upon the Shipping Board being induced to give unbiased attention to the matter. If it does, there can be no doubt of such a service being instituted. Then, with the efforts the Citrus Exchange is making, it will not be long before the field of citrus marketing will be rapidly and, perhaps, enormously widened. The Florida fruit will advertise itself--if the 'green fruit Hog' can be suppressed. There can be no 'overproduction' if Florida has world markets for its citrus products."

Farmer's Dollar

Glenn Griswold, Chicago correspondent of The Philadelphia Ledger, in the issue for September 22 says: "J. H. Howard, former president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Nat C. Murray, recently chief statistician of the Department of Agriculture, and H. W. Moorehouse, formerly statistician of the American Farm Bureau Federation, have associated to study agriculture analytically and are presenting some reports which indicate that our extravagant ideas of prosperity blind us to the fact that farm prosperity is already with us. These statisticians find that in the crop year just closed the purchasing power of the farmer reached a point in excess of the so-called prewar level and stood higher than at any time previous to 1913. They estimate that the gross-sales income of our farms for the year to end with next June will be approximately \$10,000,000,000 after deducting taxes and interest. If commodity prices are approximately what they are now the per capita purchasing power of the farmers of this country would be 103 per cent of what it was in 1913 as compared to 96 per cent for the calendar year 1923 and to about 83 per cent, the highest level ever touched previous to 1908. These figures take no account of stuff raised and consumed on the farm, used for seed or traded among farmers. They have to do only with the actual cash income from products sold in the market....On that basis the tabulation, which begins with the year 1867 and continues by projection to June of next year, shows that the state of the American farmer has been constantly advancing, that his actual purchasing power has almost doubled since

the end of the Civil War and indicates a present acceleration of this betterment....The Howard-Moorehouse-Murray compilation does not contemplate a fixed normal purchasing power. It concedes to the farmer each year a normal and equitable purchasing power slightly in excess of that of the previous year, and even on that basis the farm purchasing power of to-day stands in excess of normal."

Grain Rust in Canada

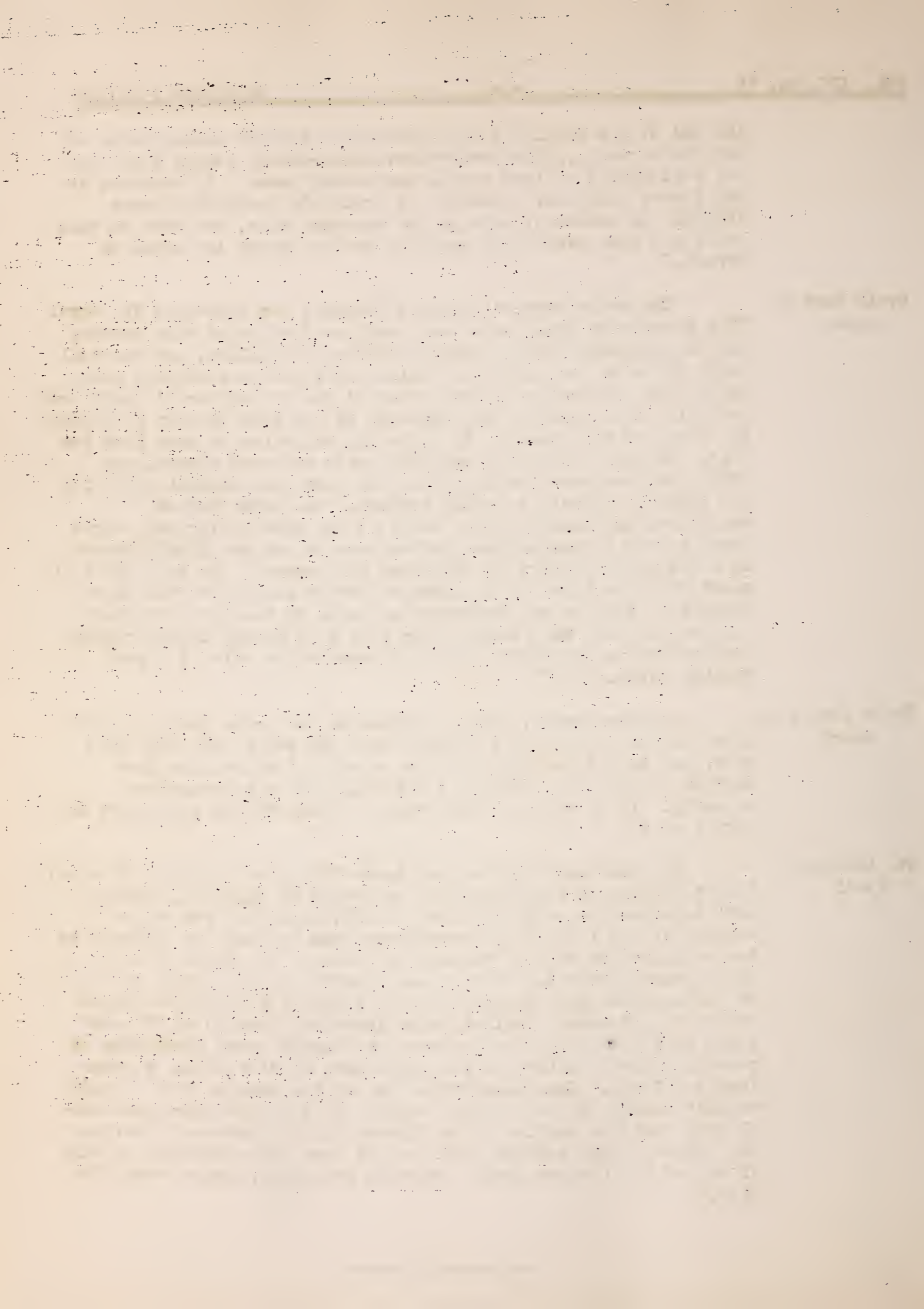
The Grain Growers' Guide (Winnipeg) for September 17, says: "The ravages of grain rust have cost the farmers of this country and the adjoining States untold millions of dollars, and the toll seems to be on the increase. Unless rust can be conquered large areas will eventually be forced out of the production of wheat, and possibly other grains. The solution of the rust problem is beyond the reach of the farmer. It is to the scientist we must look for help. Science is already grappling with the rust menace, and while some progress has been made and there are hopeful signs for the future, yet rust is still rampant. The gathering of scientists at Winnipeg, last week, at the Rust Conference, marks another step in cooperation between Canada and the United States in a determined effort to stamp out the scourge. In the matter of plant diseases there is no barrier between Canada and the great Republic. That is one commodity in which by the laws of nature we have complete free trade. For that very reason international cooperation is essential. Neither country can solve the rust problem alone....."

Sweet Corn Pack Short

A Cedar Rapids, Iowa, dispatch to the press to-day states that because of the small returns from the sweet corn crop this year, due to wet and cold weather, canning factories in that section of Iowa are working at half-time and three-quarters capacity. It is said the pack will be about 50 per cent short of normal years.

St. Lawrence Canal

The American Elevator and Grain Trade for September 15 says: "Wheat growers of the Northwest, according to Julius H. Barnes, have sustained an estimated loss of \$25,000,000 in two weeks because of the lack of transportation such as would be afforded by the canalization of the St. Lawrence River. The flood of new grain pouring down the Great Lakes resulted in congestion of wheat at Buffalo, and this in turn was the reason for intensive competition to get cars. Freight rates increased from 60 to 70 cents a ton in two weeks and the higher rate showed every indication of remaining fixed as long as the grain crop might continue to pour down the lakes. Some authorities are of the opinion that a single season's losses to the farmers because of this transportation complexity would be sufficient to finance the St. Lawrence waterway. Mr. Barnes, whose opinion gains weight from his experience as head of one of the largest grain exporting companies, agrees with this view."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 22: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.30 for the top; \$8.90 to \$10.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.65 to \$10.65; butcher cows and heifers \$3.25 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$7.75; light and medium weight veal calves \$8.50 to \$12; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.25; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

New Jersey Cobbler and Green Mountain potatoes \$1.35-\$1.60 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities, \$1.15-1.25 f.o.b. Eastern Shore Virginia yellow varieties of sweet potatoes \$5-5.75 per barrel. New York Domestic type cabbage closed at \$10.00 to \$15.00 bulk per ton in eastern cities, top of \$20 to \$25 in Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. New York and mid-western yellow varieties of onions \$1.75-2.25 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.40-1.75 f.o.b. Rochester, N.Y. New York and Pennsylvania Elberta peaches \$2.75-3.25 per bushel basket in eastern cities; mostly \$1.65 f.o.b. Illinois apples, Jonathans \$2.25-2.50 in Chicago.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 37 1/2¢; Boston 38¢; Chicago 36 1/4¢; Philadelphia 38 1/2¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 20: Single Daisies 21¢; Longhorns 21 1/2¢; Square Prints 23 1/4¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 22: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.31 to \$1.46. No. 2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.40 to \$1.42; Kansas City \$1.36. No. 4 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.31 1/4. No. 2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.30 1/2 to \$1.31; St. Louis \$1.28 to \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.20 to \$1.33. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.12 3/4 to \$1.14 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.07 1/2; St. Louis \$1.13; Kansas City \$1.07. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.12 1/2 to \$1.14; Minneapolis \$1.05 1/2 to \$1.06. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.11 to \$1.13 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.06 1/2. No. 2 white corn Kansas City \$1.09 1/2; St. Louis \$1.14. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 to 47 3/4 cents; Minneapolis 43 5/8 to 43 7/8 cents; St. Louis 49 to 50 cents; Kansas City 47 1/2 cents.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 43 points, closing at 21.23¢ per lb. New York October future contracts declined 39 points, closing at 22.16¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 22,	Sept. 20,	Sept. 22, 1923.
	20 Industrials	103.25	103.85	88.54
	20 R. R. stocks	89.50	89.81	78.76

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 23.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 72

Section 1

September 24, 1924

Grain Cars

Railroads in all parts of the country have been asked to help the northwestern section of the country get its crops to the market by assuring a supply of grain cars. This request is made in a letter written by L. M. Betts, manager of the closed-car section of the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association. In his letter, which he sent to executives of the railroads, he called attention to the record production of Spring wheat in Montana, Minnesota and South Dakota and a record production of flaxseed in Minnesota, the Dakotas and Montana. "The Government crop report of September 1 very strongly emphasizes the large problem still ahead of the railroads," his letter said, "particularly those in the Northwest, to meet successfully the demands incident to the movement to market of the 1924 crop....It is not too much to say that the maintenance of a favorable car supply on roads serving this territory is of paramount importance, not alone to the railroads directly concerned but to every railroad in the country. The Winter wheat movement in the Central West is being handled successfully, and it is essential that the Northwest obtain like good service...."

Corn and Hog Market The high price of corn will cause no financial hardship on hog raisers, owing to the fact that they will sell their hogs earlier in the season than ordinarily, according to Armour & Co. of Chicago, in a review of conditions in the packing industry. This conclusion is based on a test made by Armour's Livestock Bureau. The report shows that the margin between the cost of raising hogs to light, medium and heavy weights, and the amounts received per head over cost of feed for the animals of these weights, is given as \$3.02 for the lightweight hog, against \$2.37 for the medium and \$1.42 for the heavy. Owing to the high cost of corn, it is reasoned that farmers will not hold their hogs for fattening this year. (Press, Sept. 24.)

Bread Price

An Atlantic City dispatch to the press to-day says: "Bakers of the United States are not making exorbitant profits on the ten-cent loaf and welcome the investigation to be made by the Federal Trade Commission, it was asserted at Atlantic City September 23 by Raymond K. Stritzinger of Norristown, Pa., president of the American Bakers' Association, at the opening of the twenty-seventh annual convention.

Pittsburgh Plus

Glenn Griswold says in The Philadelphia Ledger to-day: "Within the next few days the Middle West will know approximately what will be its immediate benefits from the abolishment of the Pittsburgh Plus system of quoting steel prices. Those benefits will be measurable and considerable but small in comparison to the extravagant statements of Pittsburgh Plus antagonists, who have deluded themselves and a considerable portion of the public into believing that the benefits to farmers alone in eleven Middle Western States would amount to \$30,000,000 annually. The actual reward will be only a scant fraction of such a sum."

Section 2

Agriculture in
Britain

An editorial in The Field (London) for September 11 says: "The Rebuilding Of Rural England." This is the title of an interesting work which has recently come from the pen of Mr. Montague Fordham... The blame for the present unsatisfactory state of affairs is apportioned between, what Mr. Fordham calls, 'the control of the English rural oligarchy,' whose outlook on life is regarded as an obstacle in the way of the 'creation of wealth and its equitable distribution among the many' and the domination of dealers and auctioneers. Most farmers will agree with his second conclusion that it is the dealers who are masters of the situation in too many cases by virtue of their command of ready cash, their skill in bargaining, and their expert knowledge of market conditions. Although the extent of this evil may be exaggerated, Mr. Fordham is right when he says that farmers as a body are continually being pressed by dealers to buy in the dearest market and to sell in the cheapest. On the ground that it is impossible to harmonize the interests of the middleman with those of the producer, or of the consumer, or of the Nation, Mr. Fordham suggests that we should change our system. First of all he proposes that land councils should be elected on democratic lines to take over the land in each parish, due compensation being given to the present owners. The tenant farmers, smallholders and cottagers would thus become council tenants. It would be the duty of the land council to develop the parish estate generally by the use of State credit and, in particular, to adjust farm boundaries where necessary, undertake the building of cottages, supervise the cultivation of land. There should be a county federation of paid delegates from these Land Councils, and over all should be set a National Chamber of Agriculture. An essential part of Mr. Fordham's scheme is the regulation of markets by the fixing of standard prices for agricultural produce and the limitation of food imports to what we in this country can not grow economically. A national price list would be fixed by a committee of producers and consumers to which all sales would be subject. A market depot, resembling a post office, would be set up in each village with a depot at the railway station as the sole channel for the sale of agricultural produce. Here the farmer's produce would be assessed, graded, stored, and finally passed on to the different market centres as required. The farmer would be paid for his produce through a National Bank of Agriculture to be carried on without profit as a public service. This bank would be prepared to advance money to the farmer for the purchase of manures, feeding stuffs, seeds, and machinery, on the security of the future payment for his crops. A scale of minimum wages for the laborer would, of course, be the corollary of standard prices for the farmer."

Cooperative
Marketing in
Western Canada

Charles A. Dunning, Prime Minister of Saskatchewan, in an address at the conference on agricultural cooperation in the Empire, at the British Empire exhibition at Wembley, is quoted in The Journal of the (British) Ministry of Agriculture for September as saying: "In the early days in Western Canada we suffered a very great deal from what we called the grain monopoly... As a result the

Saskatchewan Cooperative Elevator Company was formed for the purpose of dealing in grain....The business of the company is to build elevators, operate them and generally engage in the business of grain marketing. Now, where does the Government come in? Elevators cost a great deal of money, and it was decided, after careful investigation, that provided the farmers in a locality subscribed sufficient of the capital stock of the company to recover the cost of the facilities which they required at their local point, and paid up in cash 15 per cent of their subscriptions, the province should advance to the company the remaining 85 per cent of the cost of erecting those facilities, taking as security a mortgage on the facilities themselves, and also a mortgage on the uncalled capital stock of the company. The relationship of the State to the institution, therefore, was that of first mortgagee on the facilities and first mortgagee on the uncalled capital liability of the individual shareholder. The repayment to the State was arranged on an amortised basis over 20 years with the understanding that the State would loan the money to the institution at a rate of interest not to exceed the cost of the money itself to the State, but the money has never been lent at a rate below the cost to the State, the idea being that there should be no contribution from the general taxpayer for the scheme, but rather that the credit of the province should be placed behind it, because of its vital importance to the welfare of all the people. Well, that was done, and I will give some particulars of what has resulted. The shareholders now number 25,000. They have 425 country elevators, that means 425 local organizations of farmers, each of them grouped around the particular facility for handling their grain in which they are interested. The storage capacity of their country storage houses is 12 million bushels. In addition, as time went on, it was found necessary for the institution to own terminal elevators at the ports, to own appliances capable of treating damaged grain--hospital elevators, and they have at the present time over $6\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels of capacity in terminal and hospital storage. In addition, last year they leased from the Canadian National Railway system, owned by the Government of Canada, a large terminal elevator, I think the largest in Canada, of $7\frac{1}{4}$ million bushels capacity; so that they have at the head of the Lakes to-day 15,175,000 bushels of capacity for storing their grain, and out of a total capacity at the port of around 60 million bushels, 15 million bushels, or one-quarter, is owned by the organized farmers, and operated by them."

Farmers' Store

The Philadelphia Ledger for September 22 states that a group of fifty farmers in Gloucester County, N.J., report that the marketing house they established this summer in Philadelphia is making out satisfactorily. The farmers grow market truck, peaches, potatoes and various vegetables, and are reaching city buyers by a short route, hiring a store in the heart of the wholesale area, and employing salaried representatives as salesman. The business has been a financial success, according to the New Jersey Federation of County Boards of Agriculture, the State farmers' organization which cooperated with the growers in the development of their marketing plans.

Farm Profits

An editorial in The Weekly Kansas City Star for September 1st says: "Farm products are increasing. The average income of the American farmer was greater in 1923 than in 1922. (News Item.)" To this cheerful news may be added, the farmer is making this year greater progress toward a normal state than at any time since the beginning of his evil days some four years ago. At that the farmer has a long way to go before he reaches a satisfactory financial state. The thing wrong with agriculture is that farm products bring too low a price compared with the cost of producing these materials and compared with the cost of maintaining present day standard of living. For example, the average cash income returned last year to those farmers owning and operating their own farms, taking the United States as a whole, was only \$890 as estimated by the Department of Agriculture. It is true that, in addition to this cash income, these farms contributed to the cost of the living of the farm family in food and fuel to the amount of \$250, and showed an increase in the inventory of livestock, farm implements and buildings of \$130, making a total income of \$1,270. This was on an average investment of \$17,490. Last year's return of \$1,270, though better than that of any of the three preceding years, was all the farmer got for the work of himself and his family and as return on an invested capital of \$17,490. This is scarcely more than 7 per cent on the capital invested, allowing nothing for the farmer's labor and the labor of the members of his family. And, besides, they had to take part of this in trade in the form of food and fuel for the family. Allowing the housewife and children a gross wage of \$250 a year this would leave the farmer but \$1,020, or little more than \$3 a day for his work, letting the \$17,490 capital investment earn nothing. No other worker requires so large a capital investment and receives at present such small return on that capital and on his labor as the farmer. The cash income of the average farmer owning his land was less than \$900. Out of this he had to pay \$230 interest on borrowed money. Clearly this borrowed money did not earn anywhere near what it cost the farmer to borrow it. This left \$660 out of which to pay for the clothing and the education and enjoyment of the family. This is not enough cash income to supply the modern needs of a farm family....Country high schools take farm boys and girls up to the beginning of the college or university course. The young folks reared on the farm do not understand why they can not go on to college along with their high school classmates from the families of the butcher, the grocer, the garage keeper, the banker, the lawyer or the preacher. Clearly with a gross cash income of \$900, out of which \$230 must be paid for interest, these children can not go on to college with their high school mates, but must drop out and go to work. They feel keenly the sting of an unfair situation and are asking themselves why the privileges allowed to other folks can not be enjoyed by farm folks. Little wonder, then, that they are deserting agriculture. The exodus from the farm is certain to continue so long as our industries remain in so unbalanced a state. Some practical way must be worked out whereby the farmer gets a better return on his investment and his labor. Agriculture must yield better returns to the workers in that industry....Under present circumstances we are exploiting both our farm land and our farm families. No nation is safe that is spending

reserves of such incalculable value. The consumer should have an absorbing interest in this situation, for his welfare is intimately bound up with that of the farmer."

Foreign Trade

An editorial in The New York Times for September 23 says: "Secretary Mellon has given to the National Council of Importers and Traders his view of the effect of the operation of the Dawes plan upon foreign trade: 'I feel that the Dawes plan will be a success and that we will shortly see established in Europe financial and commercial order. The industries of the countries, now a large part idle, will come into production and the buying power of Europe generally will be enormously increased. This will mean more trade, in which we as well as Europe will share.' Every nation in foreign trade is both buyer and seller. The fact that the export merchandise movement does not balance with the import simply shows that the debt is paid in some other way. Mr. Mellon's words should serve to reassure Americans hesitant about the future of our foreign trade, but they are equally applicable to European nations. England and France are worried about the resumption of German exports on a large scale. But the countries which buy the German goods will certainly pay for them either with their own or with equivalent values procured by sales in other markets. The details may be obscure, but the result is as certain as that the world's foreign trade will be increased and not hindered by the working out of the Dawes plan."

Wheat Exports

The Wall Street Journal of September 22 says: "In July the total world exports of wheat amounted to 47,270,000 bushels, against 46,146,000 in July, 1923. With one exception all the exporting countries shipped less wheat than a year ago. The exception was the United States. Upon this fact and the reasons for it our domestic price for this year's crop of wheat is based. Exports of all other countries outside of the United States compared with July, 1923, decreased 4,097,000 bushels. Those of the United States, however, increased 5,221,000 bushels, or 69 per cent in the month. In the same time also our exports of rye were two and one-half times larger than those of a year ago while those of other countries were smaller....Producers of wheat and rye in all exporting countries of the world are not withholding their grains from market simply to influence the election in the United States. If they are, then Mr. Brockhart has been miserably betrayed by his anti-capitalistic friends and brothers in happy Russia....Russia is now numbered among those countries that are not exporting as much wheat and rye as a year ago. Either Russia is betraying its admiring friend in the United States or else it has not the wheat to sell. If official reports are of any value this is because Russia has not the wheat. Official records also show the same deficiency in all other foreign exporting countries, now shipping less wheat and rye than they did a year ago when nature was more bountiful to them than to the United States. The same fact also applies to the countries which are obliged to import breadstuffs. They too are numbered among the countries whose crops are smaller....Exporting countries are more interested in selling their grain than they are in the elections in the United States. The importing countries are more interested in filling their requirements for food than in taking part in party politics in this country. Foreign exporters are selling less

because they have less to sell. Importing countries are buying from us simply because we have what they want. They are paying more for it than a year ago because our competitors have far less to sell, and for this reason we are getting a good price for wheat

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 23: September 23 Chicago prices: Hogs, top, \$10.50; bulk of sales \$9.10 to \$10.20; medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.75; butcher cows and heifers \$4.25 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$7.75; light and medium weight veal calves \$9.25 to \$12.50; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.25 to \$13.50; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Maine bulk Irish Cobbler potatoes \$1.35-\$1.40 in New York; 65-70¢ at Maine shipping point. New York Domestic cabbage \$10-15 bulk per ton in eastern markets; \$7-9 f.o.b. Rochester. Midwestern yellow onions \$2-2.25 in city markets; \$1.50-1.70 f.o.b. Indiana points. New York Elberta peaches \$2.75-3.25 per bushel basket in city markets; \$2-2.25 f.o.b. New York apples, Wealthys \$5 per barrel in New York City; \$1.45-1.50 per bushel basket in eastern cities; \$1.25-1.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware Jonathans mostly \$1.75-\$2.

Grain prices quoted September 23: No.1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.33 to \$1.50. No.2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.40 to \$1.43; Kansas City \$1.34 to \$1.35. No.3 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.34 3/4. No.2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.30 1/2 to \$1.31 1/2; St. Louis \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.21 to \$1.32. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.07 1/2 to \$1.09 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.06 to \$1.06 1/2. No.2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.06 3/4 to \$1.08 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.03 1/2 to \$1.04 1/2. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.04 1/2 to \$1.07 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.05 to \$1.05 1/2; St. Louis \$1.09 to \$1.11; Kansas City \$1.07. No.3 white oats Chicago 46 to 47 cents; Minneapolis 44 1/4 cents; St. Louis 48 to 48 3/4 cents; Kansas City 48 to 48 1/2 cents. No.2 white corn Kansas City \$1.08 1/2. No.3 white corn Chicago \$1.04 1/2 to \$1.07; St. Louis \$1.11.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 158 points, closing at 22.81¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 172 points, closing at 23.88¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 23,	Sept. 22,	Sept. 22, 1923
	20 Industrials	104.16	103.25	88.54
	20 R. R. stocks	90.03	89.50	78.76

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 24.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 73

Section 1

September 25, 1924

Professor Boyle A Cincinnati dispatch to the press to-day says: "Wheat on Wheat Pools pooling is an 'economic fallacy' and can succeed only on a rising market, Dr. J. E. Boyle, professor of rural economy, Cornell University, September 24 told the Grain Dealers National Association. Present wheat pools, he declared, 'are not cooperation, but a substitute for it and an enemy to farmers' elevators.' Dr. Boyle asserted that local farmers' elevators were 'true cooperation and had saved money,' but, he added, 'they are not spectacular enough for leaders.' He characterized the United States Grain Growers, Inc., as a 'dramatic gesture.' He declared it 'spent \$750,000 in three years and then died without marketing any grain.' "

Bakers' Convention Julius Fleischmann, yeast manufacturer, declared yesterday before the American Bakers Association in convention at Atlantic City, that home baking was fast decreasing, and that, according to the association, home baking was now only about 30 per cent of the bread produced against 80 per cent a few years ago. Mr. Fleischmann declared that wide consumption of bread would increase the demand for wheat and bring prosperity to the farmer and the country in general. The Brand bill, now before Congress, standardizing the weight of all loaves of bread, was condemned at the business session of the bakers. The bill would have all loaves of bread either a pound or a pound and a half in weight, and this, according to the bakers, would prevent the baking of better breads to suit the tastes of the public. Lewis F. Boster of Minneapolis was elected President of the association, succeeding Raymond K. Stritzinger of Norristown, Pa. (Press, Sept. 25.)

Sugar Tariff Urged Representing the Farmers' Cooperative Beet Sugar Growers of Nebraska, A. N. Mathers asked President Coolidge September 24 to issue a proclamation to make permanent the present duty on sugar. Mr. Mathers, who said he had received written commitments favorable to the retention of the present duties on western farm products from 434 national and State producing organizations, 7,800 banks, 400 newspapers and 297 Chambers of Commerce, asserted after he had seen the President that Senator La Follette had misrepresented the farmers of the West as to their attitude toward the existing tariff law. (Press, Sept. 25.)

Plant-Food Research Institute A Yonkers, N.Y., dispatch to the press to-day states that, dedicated to the study of more scientific methods of vegetable production, the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research was opened there yesterday. It has a \$5,000,000 endowment and a staff of twenty biologists. The institute will devote its efforts to elimination of diseases that hamper the growth of food plants in the United States.

Section 2

Agricultural

Training in Oregon

An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for September 18 says: "Vocational agricultural training is gaining headway in Oregon. Some splendid results have been obtained in several eastern Oregon counties where it has been given....Courses are offered in farm animals, farm crops, rural engineering and farm shop practices. In addition to classroom and shop instruction each pupil is required to conduct a home project of some practical phase of farming. There are 26 vocational agricultural departments in the high schools of Oregon, covering all parts of the State."

Bread Price

An editorial in The Philadelphia Ledger for September 24 says "The American Bakers' Association, now in session at Atlantic City, formally declares there will be no general increase in the price of bread. When wheat was ninety cents a bushel the standard price for the pound loaf of bread was ten cents. Wheat has risen from thirty to forty cents per bushel. Flour has moved upward with wheat. The standard price of the loaf, however, will not change. So far as the bakers are concerned, they will not try to pass on the increased price of wheat and flour to the consumer. No; the millennial dawn has not touched the bakers. They hope to continue making their profits. Nor will they attempt to make war on the wheat-grower and beat down the price of wheat. They are relying on betterment of machinery and baking methods to lower the cost of their product. The products are to be bettered so more of them will be used. The bakers believe that through proper advertising the demand can be made to absorb 200,000,000 more bushels of wheat yearly than are now being absorbed. This will help the baker and the mill and the railroads and the farmer. Since bread is the traditional 'staff of life,' it should help everybody. There are not many precedents for this attitude of the baking industry. If there were more, the always high cost of living would not be quite so high and the average family's pocketbook would not be quite so flattened."

Cooperatives

An editorial in The Farmer for September 20 says: "A friend asked us the other day if it was true that a farmer who stayed outside of a cooperative marketing association would receive as good or a better price for his products than the price received by the loyal cooperator. To his way of thinking, this was the only factor to be considered in joining or refusing to join a cooperative marketing association. Our truthful answer was that the non-cooperator did often receive as good or a better price than did the loyal pooler and for a very good reason. However, we pointed out that were it not for the cooperative association both the members and the non-members would sell on a broken market and receive very much lower prices than could be secured if the cooperative marketing association was not operating. The point raised by our friend should be thoroughly understood by farmers. When a cooperative marketing association of any considerable size begins to function, its service in standardizing products and in bringing about orderly marketing tends to raise the whole level of prices. The non-member gets this benefit just as does the member. The enemies of the

cooperative movement, hoping to break it down, sometimes even give him an extra premium. Hundreds of cooperative creameries and elevators have been busted up because of weaning support away from the cooperative. That is why the marketing contract was devised. But even with a strong functioning cooperative, the non-member, like a parasite, gets some of the benefits made possible through the efforts of his loyal cooperative neighbors....When you size up the particular cooperative association to which you belong, remember that you can not gauge its value by the net returns it gives to you as compared to the net returns to the non-member. There is a great deal more to the cooperative movement than the dollars-and-cents return to the individual. There is no excuse for a cooperative unless it is efficient and profitable, but remember cooperation means groups of farmers rather than individuals. If the price level for the entire group is raised by the existence of a cooperative association, despite the fact that the selfish outsiders gain almost as much as do the members, there is ample justification for the existence of such a cooperative."

Farm Finance

Glenn Griswold, Chicago correspondent of The Philadelphia Ledger, says in the issue of September 23: "The sale of \$10,000,000 of six months' debentures of the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks to a widely scattered group of twenty-seven banks serves to accentuate several interesting situations in the matter of farm finance. These banks were organized slightly more than a year ago in accordance with the act of 1923. At that time it was assumed the securities might not be particularly popular and the financing demands anticipated from farmers ran into huge totals. Consequently, it was provided that a spread of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent be allowed to the banks. In other words, they sold $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent debentures at par and sent money to farmers and farmers' associations at 6 per cent. Yesterday the $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent debentures were sold on a basis to yield $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. These offerings are purely invitation affairs. Larger banks are told how large a block of bonds is set aside for them and there is no appeal, although many of the banks would be quite content to take five times as many of the debentures as are available. If the Farm Loan Board needed \$100,000,000, instead of \$10,000,000, the issue could be underwritten as fast as the books could be opened and closed....The issue serves to accentuate the fact that the demand for this short-term credit is by no means so large as had been expected. The balance sheet of the combined Intermediate Credit Banks, as of September 1, shows debentures outstanding totaling \$31,213,000. This, with the \$24,000,000 capital paid in by the Government, provides loanable funds. Almost exactly a year ago the Intermediate Credit Banks had outstanding \$32,000,000 of loans. There is one reaction from this sort of financing that is interesting. Some farmers and every farmers' cooperative association are coming out to learn the merits of short-term financing of crop movements by means other than the usual commercial loan from a bank. A little of this sort of experience gradually gets these associations into the short-term habit and is quite effective in popularizing acceptances. Between the Intermediate Credit Banks and the acceptance bankers, old habits of crop finance are becoming passe...."

Florida Land
Settlement

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for September 27 says: "There is something worth thinking about in the warning Secretary of Agriculture Wallace recently handed Florida. Consulted about the difficulties of the citrus-fruit growers, he said: 'If the people of Florida continue to plant citrus-fruit trees as they have been planted for the past few years, the problem of distribution is apparently going to be one that has no solution.' And a little farther on he got to the real heart of the matter when he said: 'I do not know that there is much that we can do or perhaps that anyone can do to discourage the further planting of citrus on the part of men who are interested primarily in developing new properties and selling them to northern purchasers.' The desire to attract new settlers and to bring new land into production is a very natural one. But, carried on too rapidly or on too large a scale, it results in overproduction and widespread injury to others who have been longer established. The recent troubles of the wheat growers were partly due to that cause. The raisin growers have lately had a bitter taste of it. Remedial devices would seem to be up to the communities involved. If they once realize that it is better for a fair-sized number to be prosperous than for a large number to be in difficulty, perhaps they will find a way of applying the brakes."

Northwest Land

The Indianapolis Commercial for September 22 says: "Northwest States are to enjoy a period of land settlement which has been negligible since the war period, as a result of the gradual improvement of economic conditions, stimulated especially by the agricultural production of 1924, according to a survey of the situation just completed by H. W. Byerly, general immigration agent of the Northern Pacific Railway. The best agricultural lands on the continent available for purchase are in Minnesota, North Dakota and Montana and it is unlikely that there will ever again be an opportunity for settlers to acquire lands so desirable for home sites at such cheap prices, said Byerly."

Railroad Owner-
ship

Sioux City Live Stock Record for September 17 says: "We have lost plenty of other things, but are still clinging to our faith in the common sense of the farmer and other tax payers finally prevailing--and common sense is all that is necessary to vote against any proposition for the Government to take over the railroads for ownership and operation. What it means is answerable in one sentence, to-wit: Higher taxes to the farmer, higher freight rates and poorer service. Government ownership of railroads simply means that the railroads would be exempted from taxation, and the taxes the roads now pay would be prorated right back to property that is still in the taxable list. Last year the railroads, for instance, paid \$8,425,892 into the taxes of Minnesota. Under Government ownership of railroads there would be no reduction in requirements of revenues in that State and the amount, \$8,425,892, contributed by the railroads would simply be added to the taxes of farmers and home owners in the State. Do you want it? If you want to know just what tax free railroads mean to you individually just take the total of tax paid by railroads in your State, divide

it by the total population of your State. Then multiply the result by the number of people in your family and you will have the amount of increase in your tax bill after the railroads are exempted from taxation. For instance, in Iowa last year the railroads paid taxes to the amount of \$2.80 for every man, woman and child in the State. If there are seven people in your family, multiply \$2.80 by seven and the result will be the ratio of increase in your taxes when the railroads are taken over into ownership by the Government. And that won't be the worst feature of Government ownership and operation of railroads."

Wheat

Price Current-Grain Reporter for September 17 says: "Grain storage facilities in Montreal are filled to capacity, but contrary to general opinion, 75 per cent is Canadian and not United States grain. A recent report from Canada stated that although the total Montreal elevator capacity was 9,000,000 bus., 3,000,000 bus. were afloat in addition, and United States wheat was being transhipped immediately from lake vessels into ocean steamers. What is the significance of these figures? United States wheat has been moving in large volume for export through a Canadian port, because the prices were lower than those of Canada and kept the Canadian grain in storage. In other words, the 'shoe is on the other foot.' A few months ago, prices in the United States were out of line for export compared with Canada, and we were forced to cross the international line to supply our mills with grain of high milling quality. To-day, Canada has in prospect a crop of some 291,000,000 bus., compared with 450,000,000 bus. harvested a year ago, which places our neighbor to the north in almost the same position as the United States a year ago. Our import duty of 42 cents per bushel is inoperative with United States wheat the cheapest on the international market. These trends of events indicate that the delicate balance of supply and demand is working as it always has and will until eternity."

Wool Demand

American Wool and Cotton Reporter for September 18 says: "The continued activity of the woolen mills is interesting, in spite of the bid for the worsted trade at the openings. It is very evident that the American people like to buy woollens at present in preference to worsteds, although, of course, certain lines of worsteds always tend to be in demand. A somewhat unusual proceeding is that of cutting up the Territory worsted wool into smaller lengths for use by the woolen mills, showing that the supply of regular scoured wools is insufficient to meet the demand. The lack of demand for worsted wools in this country, or comparative lack of it at present, is offset by the foreign buying, which naturally accounts for the great amount of foreign wool in bond which has been reshipped abroad at a higher price than could be obtained for it here. England, France, Germany, and Japan have been buying heavily in worsted wools, including large amounts of wool which originally came from Australia. America has not been buying heavily in Australia of late, but it is understood that it would make no difference to the price if American buyers did not bid at all in the primary markets 'down under,' so keen has been the demand for other countries. It is also understood that manufacturers have been

quietly buying worsted wool in bond, or at least a few of them have, and, in fact, it is roughly estimated that 50 per cent of the foreign wools in bond has been sold to American manufacturers against future needs. The demand for wools for woolen purposes and also the for worsted purposes maintains the great strength of the market. Conditions are such that higher prices seem inevitable, much to the regret of many wool men."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 24: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.45 for the top and \$9 to \$10.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.90; butcher cows and heifers \$3.35 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$7.75; light and medium weight veal calves \$9.75 to \$12.25; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.50; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Main bulk Cobbler potatoes \$1.30 to \$1.40 in New York, 60 to 65¢ at shipping point. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions \$1.75 to \$2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers, \$1.40 to \$1.75 at shipping points. Northern Danish type cabbage \$30 to \$35 in St. Louis. New York Elberta peaches \$2.50 to \$3.25 per bushel basket in eastern cities; \$1.85 to \$2 f.o.b. Rochester, Virginia and West Virginia Grimes Golden apples \$4.50 to \$5.50 in eastern cities, \$4.50 f.o.b. Martinsburg, West Virginia. Cantaloupes \$2.50 to \$3 per standard 45 in eastern markets, top of \$3.50 in Philadelphia; 70 to 85¢ cash to growers at Rocky Ford.

Closing wholesale prices on 92 score butter: New York 37 1/4¢; Boston 37 1/2¢; Chicago 35 1/4¢; Philadelphia 38 1/4¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary markets September 23: Twins 20 1/2¢; Cheddars 20 1/4¢; Single Daisies 21¢; Double Daisies 20 3/4¢; Young Americas 22 1/2¢; Longhorns 22 1/4¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 24: No.1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.34 to \$1.52. No.2 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.38 1/2; St. Louis \$1.43 to \$1.45; Kansas City \$1.36. No.2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.33 1/4 to \$1.35; St. Louis \$1.31 to \$1.32 1/2; No.1 hard winter wheat Kansas City \$1.25 to \$1.30. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.08 1/2 to \$1.10 1/4; Minneapolis \$1.03 1/2 to \$1.04; Kansas City \$1.07. No.2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.08 1/2 to \$1.09 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.01 to \$1.01 1/2. No.3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.06 to \$1.08 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.02 1/2 to \$1.03; St. Louis \$1.10. No.3 white oats Chicago 47 to 48 cents; Minneapolis 43 1/8 cents; St. Louis 48 1/2 to 49 cents; Kansas City 47 1/4 to 47 3/4 cents. No.3 white corn Chicago \$1.06 3/4 to \$1.07; St. Louis \$1.12. No.2 white corn Kansas City \$1.07.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 40 points, closing at 22.41¢ per lb. New York October future contracts declined 36 points, closing at 23.52¢.
(Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 24,	Sept. 23,	Sept. 24, 1923
	20 Industrials	104.68	104.16	89.21
	20 R. R. stocks	90.71	90.03	78.86
(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 25.)				

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 74

Section 1

September 26, 1924

The President on
National Issues

Philadelphia
President Coolidge, as the chief speaker at the/celebration of the 150th anniversary of the assembling of the Continental Congress, last night recalled the historic events leading up to the birth of the Nation, emphasized their importance in forming the ideal of the American Nation, and applied the heritage obtained in the Constitution to present day theories--the proposed nationalization of the railroads and the nullification of United States Supreme Court decisions by an act of Congress. "It is very difficult to reconcile the American ideal of a sovereign people capable of owning and managing their own Government with an inability to own and manage their own business," he said, in opposing Government ownership of railroads. "No doubt there are certain municipalities where some public utilities have been managed through public ownership with a creditable success, but this is very different from a proposal that the national Government should take over railroads and other public utilities. What a strain this would be to our economic system will be realized when it is remembered that public commissions set the value of such utilities at about \$35,000,000,000, and that they have about 2,750,000 employees. Such an undertaking would mean about \$1,750,000,000 annually in bond interest, and an operating budget estimated at about \$9,000,000,000. The utilities are no longer in the hands of the few. Directly or indirectly, they are owned by scores of millions of our inhabitants, it would mean a loss in public revenue estimated at \$600,000,000 a year, and while in industrial States it might not increase the tax rate on the farmer more than 3 per cent or 4 per cent, in many agricultural counties it would run as high as 40 per cent." Through the breaking down of the power of the courts, said the President, lay an easy way to the confiscation of the property and the destruction of the liberty of the individual. With railways and electrical utilities under political control, the domination of a group would be so firmly intrenched in the whole direction of our Government that the privilege of citizenship for the rest of the people would consist largely in payment of taxes. (Press, Sept. 26.)

Bread Investigation An Atlantic City dispatch to the press to-day says: "The investigation to be conducted by the Federal Trade Commission into the bread industry of the country, to determine costs and profits, will be a fair and impartial one. This statement was made at Atlantic City September 25 at the closing session of the twenty-seventh annual convention of the American Bakers' Association by Dr. Francis Walker, chief economist of the Federal Trade Commission, who will have charge of the investigation which has been ordered by the Senate. Dr. Walker urged the bakers to give the Government their full cooperation.... Congressman Sydney Anderson of Minnesota, a member of the House Appropriations Committee and President of the Millers' National Federation, defended white bread against attacks being made upon it regarding food value."

Section 2

Agricultural
Industry

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 27 says: "Figures never lie, but liars do figure." The clever statistician can prove almost anything with figures, but the conclusions drawn from his presentation do not always prove themselves when practically applied.... One of the great American games of to-day, and especially during a political campaign, is to sit down with pencil and paper and prove that farming does not pay and that it never has paid since the first colonists traded, with a string of glass beads, the Indians out of a few leagues of land. Yet, in every State in the Union and in every section of every State are men comfortably well off with this world's goods who dug it out of the soil and who have not profited by the increase in the value of the land, for they yet own the land they started with. There are thousands of others who are making a good living by farming and who own automobiles and many of the other necessities and luxuries of modern times. Farming is not different from other industries. There are many engaged in agriculture wholly unfitted for the work. They are failures because they lack initiative and business judgment. The same is true in other lines of business. While the figures are not available, if the mortgages, bonds and other debts of men in commercial lines, manufacturing and other wise, were stacked up against any one year's profits, as is done in comparing the profits of agriculture, the debts would undoubtedly top the profits by many millions of dollars. The agricultural industry is handicapped as a whole by having to carry a large class of inefficient farmers who help create a surplus without adding anything to net profits. The one-crop farmer; the farmer who produces in a haphazard manner; who sneers at scientific methods of production; who fails to recognize the importance of producing the best, and marketing only the best of what he produces; who fails to exercise even ordinary judgment in the conduct of his business, belongs to the class who throw the agricultural industry of the country out of balance. There are too many trying to make a living out of farming who are not considered competent to make a success in any other line, and when an industry, under such a handicap, produces more than \$22,000,000,000 of new wealth in twelve months' time, that industry certainly is deserving of the active interest of capable and industrious men. The agricultural industry will show surplus profits instead of surplus products when men engaged in it look upon it as a business instead of a speculation,¹ or a mere way of securing a poor living."

Agriculture

Sioux City Livestock Record for September 22 says: "There is scarcely room to question that the coming winter is destined to develop some mighty agitation upon the matter of meat production, demands and prices. And it may as well be admitted that it has been agitations that have put this country in the lead as a progressing and developing country. But not all of the agitations with which we have been visited have been of a developing character--in plain English, many of them have been lop-sided and illogical. Some months ago it was heralded up and down the land that the one cure for the wheat situation was reduction of production. Then along came old Dame Nature and produced a condition

that resulted in both a good crop and higher prices. Result: Absolutely natural rush to increase the acreage of winter wheat sown this fall. It was a lop-sided agitation, contrary to the natural bent of humanity. And now there arises another agitation on the same line. It is proposed that cattle production be reduced to just enough to supply local demand for beef and other cattle products. We sometimes think as we read, and travel, and hear, and see, that a glut of the market for dairy products is inevitable. But what about beef production as one of the factors in agriculture? Reduce cattle production and what will happen to this great supply of farm feed that has no other market than through the feeding of live stock? To reduce cattle production on the lines suggested would simply be to generate a rush to get into cattle production as soon as the price for beef cattle reached a point that looked attractive. In the final analysis it looks as though there is only one system for agriculture, as well as other lines of endeavor, and that is summed in two words, 'balanced production.'....The world will probably always have with it the fellow who runs to one-crop ideas--and he will be broke at least half the time."

Fertilizer Tonnage Reports from fertilizer centers show that spring tonnage has been very satisfactory, says the American Fertilizer. Texas leads with an increase of 72 per cent. For the year ended September 1, 1924, output was 126,180 tons, compared with 73,300 tons for the previous year. South Carolina is next with an increase of 30 per cent. For the fiscal year ended July 1, 1924, production was 881,369 tons, an increase of 202,674. Reports from the Northern States on the fall tonnage for 1924 are very encouraging, and it is believed there will be a good increase over the fall of 1923. (Press, Sept. 23.)

Flax Growing in Ireland At the annual meeting of the Flax Mill Owners' Association of Ireland held recently in Belfast steps were considered by which the decline of the flax industry in Ireland could be arrested and the industry revived. The importance of seed selection formed the principal subject of discussion. John W. Stewart, president of the association, told the convention that the Government was keenly interested in the improvement of the industry and that a recent inspection of the flax fields by a deputation from the Northern Ministry of Agriculture made apparent the vital necessity for the use of pedigree seed if the decline of flax cultivation was to be stopped. The difficulty, according to Mr. Stewart, was the inability of flax growers to procure enough of the proper seed to meet their needs. The association urged upon the Government the desirability of putting into operation a plan to procure by some means a supply of pure line flaxseed sufficient for the requirements of the Northern Ireland growers, if flax-growing in Ireland was to be maintained or increased; and that unless assistance of this nature was granted a continuation of inferior crops produced from commercial seeds would tend to reduce the present small acreage under flax, even with the comparatively high flax prices now in effect. (Press, Sept. 23.)

Foreign Farmers

An editorial in New England Homestead for September 13 says: "The Federal land bank of Springfield in furnishing first mortgage loans to farmers in the Northeastern States comes very closely in touch with practically all of the nationalities found on our farms, some of them looking to the bank almost entirely for their financial aid. It is surprising to find what a large number of our best New England farms are no longer held by our native people. Whole communities in some districts are entirely made up of the foreign element. These people, comprising Polish, Lithuanians, Portuguese, Swedes, Finns, French Canadians, Italians, Jews, etc (many of whom own their own homes and are rapidly acquiring more), will eventually assert a far-reaching influence on the future of New England. It is our experience that some of the nationalities make excellent farmers. They are willing to take hold and to struggle with the problems and succeed where many of our native farmers failed. They do this quite largely through the aid of the women and children, who do a substantial part of the work on the farms. They also succeed by living cheaply and in a manner that many of our Yankee farmers do not consider right. They work long hours, and some of them are very thrifty, rapidly acquiring their own homes. Not all of these nationalities are successful, however. There is a tendency in some cases for these people to acquire a poor, second class farm, using the buildings as a place to live in and then working in the shops adjacent...."

Forestry in
Britain

An editorial in Country Life (London) for September 13 says: "Two or three weeks ago we drew attention to the fact that the Forestry Commission was taking definite steps towards the planting and replanting of virgin land on the one hand and extinct plantations on the other in East Anglia, particularly in the breckland of Suffolk and Norfolk. We are now in a position to place the facts before our readers: A Forestry Act (1819) created the Forestry Commission. Their actions have hitherto been very substantial and progressive, albeit their praises remain unsung in the newspapers. In Suffolk and Norfolk, counties not far from the metropolis and endowed with extensive areas of sandy heath long lost to the plough or virgin soil, planting has begun in no mere tentative mood. In Suffolk the heaths are near the coast between Woodbridge and the sea, where plantations have been annually supplemented since the act came into force. The old forest of Tangham will be eclipsed by a new forest of conifers extending, I suppose, to ten or tens of thousands of acres. In Norfolk the sandy breckland where afforestation is beginning lies north and south of the railroad from Brandon to Thetford. Here a larger expanse of country seems suitable for the purpose, and tens of thousands of acres have been acquired, upon part of which planting has been in progress a few seasons and the nurseries stocked up for an accelerated development. Here, again, the forest will be mainly a coniferous one, but where the chalk lies near the surface a broad band of beech will bisect the pine woods. It is good to see a display of a full technical knowledge of silviculture just such as the Nation expects from a commission appointed with this object. But it is also a matter of the greatest interest to all

English planters, because in this country they have never before had the opportunity of seeing those economic practices employed which are now being put into use here, some tentatively, some already showing evidence of economic success. In Suffolk may be seen a rapidly growing wood of the pinaster, sown at intervals of a few feet over thirty-five acres where old woodland and heather had been severely burnt. The year following after sowing they were two to three feet high and have made similar progress this year. Pinaster was much experimented with in England one hundred years ago and even sown directly, but obtained no recognition as an economic mode of growing timber. Now, however, it appears that the production of the pitwood as grown in the South of France may be introduced here, for the cost of the sowing is only some three shillings per acre....."

Rail Guide for Farmers

The New York Times for September 25 says: "To insure closer cooperation between the farmers and the railroads in the eastern part of the United States, representatives of some of the eastern railroads are planning to issue a 'Handbook for the Farmer-Shipper' in the near future. The idea for the book grew out of suggestions made by representatives of farming organizations at a conference between the railroads of New York State and the farmers at Rochester last week."

Wheat Exports

During August, 1924, exports of wheat amounted to 16,834,896 bushels more than for the same month last year, the Department of Commerce announced September 23. Wheat was the only cereal whose export: in August this year was greater than last year. The average price per bushel of the exported wheat was \$1.35 for August, 1924, and \$1.09 for August, 1923. (Press, Sept. 24.)

Wool Duty

Carpet manufacturers are preparing to request from the Treasury an interpretation of the wool schedule in order to permit free entry for South American wools despite admixtures of merino or English blood. The carpet manufacturers are anxious to broaden the classification of imported wools entitled to admission free of duty so that some of the wools now assessed with duty at the rate of 31 cents a pound might be transferred to the free list. The carpet interests are understood to base their contentions upon the argument that some wools are not improved by the admixture of other bloods and hence should be considered on the same basis as what is now treated as carpet wool. (Press, Sept. 24.)

Wool Prices

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for September 20 says: "Two months ago it was difficult to get a satisfactory offer for wool. We made inquiries for several people during the summer and were unable to get quotations satisfactory to producers. One of the biggest and most reliable firms did not feel it safe to pay over thirty-two to thirty-five cents per pound for best grades. All this uncertainty was due to the fact that the English market was inactive on account of the inactivity of their mills. Buying began in England some time ago and the prices in this country immediately began to climb. Wool is another commodity that is sold on the basis of the world's price. Although this country produces less than one-half of the amount used here we can't set a price until we get the cue from London."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 25: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.30 for the top; \$9 to \$10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.75; butcher cows and heifers \$3.35 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$7.75; light and medium weight veal calves \$9.50 to \$12.50; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.35 feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Northern sacked and bulk Round White potatoes 90¢-\$1 carlot sales in Chicago; 85¢ f.o.b. for sacked stock at Waupaca. New York cabbage, domestic type, closed at \$10-\$15 bulk per ton in leading eastern markets; \$7-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Elberta peaches \$2.25-3 per six basket carrier and bushel basket in eastern cities \$1.75-1.90 f.o.b. Rochester. New York apples, Wealthys, \$1.40-1.75 per bushel basket in eastern markets; \$1.25-1.35 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions sold at \$1.50-2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; mostly \$1.35-1.65 f.o.b.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 37 1/4¢; Chicago 35 1/4¢; Philadelphia 38 1/4¢; Boston 37 1/2¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 24: Single Daisies 21¢; Double Daisies 20 3/4¢; Young Americas 22 1/2¢; Longhorns 22 1/2¢; Square Prints 23¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 25: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.34 to \$1.51. No. 2 red winter wheat Chicago \$1.38 1/4 St. Louis \$1.42 to \$1.47 Kansas City \$1.37 1/2 to \$1.38. No. 2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.34 1/2; St. Louis \$1.32 1/2; Kansas City \$1.25 to \$1.36. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.07 1/2 to \$1.08; Minneapolis \$1.02 3/4 to \$1.03 1/4. Kansas City \$1.06 1/2. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago \$1.07 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.00 3/4 to \$1.01 1/4. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.05 1/2 to \$1.06 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.00 3/4 to \$1.01 1/4; St. Louis \$1.08. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 to 48 cents; Minneapolis 43 5/8 cents St. Louis 48 to 48 1/2 cents; Kansas City 47 1/4 cents. No. 2 white corn Kansas City \$1.05 to \$1.06. No. 3 white corn Chicago \$1.05 1/2 to \$1.06 1/4; St. Louis \$1.12.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 78 points, closing at 23.19¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 96 points, closing at 24.48¢.
(Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	Sept. 25,	Sept. 24,	Sept. 25, 1923
20 Industrials	104.13	104.68	87.94
20 R.R. stocks	90.51	90.71	78.36

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 26.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 75

Section 1

September 27, 1924

Canada-Australia Dried Fruit Pact An Ottawa dispatch to the press to-day states that dried fruit exporters of the United States will be particularly hard hit by a reciprocal trade agreement between Canada and Australia that was concluded at Ottawa September 25, it was predicted by Dominion tariff experts. Exporters of Greek-grown fruits also would be seriously affected, said the experts. But to Australia, which would be permitted to export fruits to Canada duty free, the new compact will be a boon. According to Government figures, 32,000,000 pounds of dried raisins entered Canada in the fiscal year 1922-23. Of this tonnage 30,000,000 pounds came from the United States. Of 5,000,000 pounds of dried currants imported over the same period, 1,700,000 pounds came from the United States and 3,300,000 from Greece. The present duty per pound on these two products of dehydration is a half cent preferential and two-thirds of a cent intermediate and general. Under the proposed reciprocal program Australia's raisins and currants would enter the Dominion duty free, while the duty on those fruits from all countries outside the British Empire would be increased on a scale ranging from two-thirds of a cent to 3 cents per pound.

Australia long has sought trade preferences for her exports to Canada, particularly for her raisins and currants. All the program of the new treaty must be ratified by the Canadian Parliament before it can become effective. That body already is on record as favoring the duty-free provisions for the two fruits. Other products of both Canada and Australia are concerned in the treaty. What they are and how duties on them will be affected probably will not be made known until the full text of the treaty becomes available.

Reserve Board's Production Survey Production in basic industries was maintained during August at about the same level as in the two preceding months and factory employment showed a slight increase, according to the Federal Reserve Board's summary of general business and financial conditions throughout the several Federal Reserve districts, based upon statistics for the months of August and September. The summary was issued to-day. "Wholesale prices as measured by the index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, increased 2 per cent in August and were about at the same level as a year ago," the board announced. "The advance was due largely to further increases in prices of farm products and foods, though all other commodity groups except metals and fuel also advanced. During the first three weeks of September prices of wheat, rye, wool and rubber increased while those of cotton, silk, petroleum and metals declined." Loans and investments of member banks in leading cities are found by the board to have continued to increase during the four-week period which ended Sept. 10, and on that date reached a record figure about \$1,000,000,000 above the level of three months earlier.

Russia Forbids Grain Exports The press to-day states that exportation of grain from Russia has been suspended, according to a statement by Minister of Commerce Kamenev, transmitted to the Commerce Department yesterday. As a result the Latvian demand for American grain is increasing.

Section 2

British Sugar
Beet Industry

The International Sugar Journal for September says: "The British Sugar Beet Society reports that the new development in the industry will naturally involve an extended educational movement, particularly on the technical side. It has already been giving considerable attention to the question. Professor A. R. Ling, of Birmingham University, and Mr. T. H. P. Heriot, F.I.C., of the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, have accepted the society's invitation to join its committee and assist them in preparing a scheme for the promotion and maintenance of a school for the beet sugar industry, such schools being one of the main factors of the success of the industry in Continental countries. Students will be specially trained for the technical posts in a beet sugar factory, theoretical instruction being given at the universities, and practical training in the factories during the manufacturing season. In addition, the Dutch interests, which have contributed very materially to the recent success of the Cantley and Kelham factories, have promised every possible assistance to the endeavor to train Englishmen to take the higher responsible posts in a beet sugar factory."

Cattle in the
South

An editorial in The Breeder's Gazette for September 18 says: "At the meeting last week in Montgomery, Ala., of the Southern Cattleman's Association the attendance of owners of beef and dairy herds in Dixieland was several time larger than it has ever been before. Moreover, the interest manifested in the wide variety of subjects discussed was sharp and sustained. Cattlemen in the Southern States, in common with those in the North and elsewhere, have been affected by the depression, but at this meeting many remarks and signs indicated a revival of confidence that is everywhere in evidence amongst breeders of pedigree and commercial cattle. An Alabama feeder, who for many years was a producer of prime beef in Ohio, said that 'in no other part of the United States can beef cattle be so cheaply, easily and safely wintered as in the South.' Probably no informed man has ever doubted the truth of this assertion, but practical cattlemen in the South know that in some areas a beef herd can be carried through the winter more satisfactorily than through the rest of the year....Thousands of acres of the South's once best agricultural soil have been depleted by one-crop or cotton-farming. It will take time and constructive farming to provide the conditions in these impoverished areas under which sound systems of stock-farming can be successfully practiced. In numerous belts, however, there are inviting opportunities for farmers to engage in raising dairy or beef cattle, which can largely be maintained on home-grown feeds. The South, like the West, comprises a vast area, in which there are many kinds of conditions favorable or unfavorable to stock-raising. Therefore, to commend the South as a cattle country is apt to be quite as misleading as to depreciate it. Outsiders who may desire to establish themselves in the South desire specific information; 'insiders' who are trying to attract new men and capital to the South as a stock country can best accomplish their purpose by frankly stating facts. On the basis of facts, many a region in the South can present a strong case to any farmer interested in locating in Dixieland to raise beef cattle or dairy cattle, and practice mixed farming."

Cheese Outlook

An editorial in The Wisconsin Farmer for September 18 says: "According to certain Chicago informants who claim to be able to forecast values in agriculture there is not going to be a good cheese price season ahead. This statement is much qualified by Math Michels, cheese grading supervisor for Wisconsin, who has a more cheerful outlook. Mr. Michels said last week that the encouraging point in the cheese trade is the effects of educational work and the effect of the State holding order upon retail sales. He claims that the public is learning to discriminate between the undesirable grades of green cheese and the better grades of cured, held cheese. In this tendency he sees no cause for alarm at a surplus storage of cheese. Prices have advanced to a firmer tone lately, both in the American cheddar lines and in the foreign types of cheese....There are several new cheese firms and manufacturers now in the market which are taking an edge off the surplus. Mr. Michels sees no reason why the farmers who deliver milk to cheese factories should feel that the season ahead is going to be disastrous."

Everglades
Reclamation

An editorial in The Florida Grower for September 20 says: "The project of reclaiming the Everglades of Florida has been undertaken by the State....It is doubtful if any project of such magnitude has ever been essayed before, for the lands in this district exceed the combined projects within the United States Reclamation act. Millions of cubic feet of earth and coral rock have been excavated in the digging of canals large enough to float large boats. The reclamation of the Everglades involves difficult problems of water control, the two major phases being to lower the waters of Lake Okeechobee to a level where they do not overflow into the 'Glades, and to provide drainage for rainfall over the lands....It is estimated that the enterprise will yield more than a billion dollars of wealth to Florida in the increased value of lands that were bought from Spain for five cents an acre. The land will yield three or four crops a year. Scattered farming operations are now going on over an area of a million acres. Unprecedented rainfall in a short time put a lot of these lands under water about three years ago. Since that time the normal fall has kept the waters to high level. The drainage in its present stage is not one-third completed."

French Dogs to
be Denied Wheat
Bread

A Paris dispatch to the press of September 25 says: "The be Denied Wheat Matin, which for the last two years has waged a fight against wasting bread, now has started a campaign against feeding white bread to dogs. The campaign is the result of the unusually poor wheat crop. According to the Matin, bread is the most popular food for French dogs because it is the cheapest. The dogs of France eat 1,000,000 kilograms, or about 2,250,000 pounds, of white bread daily. This is about one-tenth of the daily consumption, and its saving would mean a great difference in the amount of wheat necessary to import this year from abroad. The Matin suggests that bakers be required by law to make a dog bread containing bran in reasonable quantities. The newspaper points out that original tests as to the nourishing qualities of bread were made on dogs, and it was found that the animals realized the greatest nourishment from brown bread."

German Milling Situation

Modern Miller for September 20 says: "As throwing light on the agitation in Germany, by the millers of that country to have a discriminating duty in favor of wheat imposed, the following from Milling, of Liverpool, throws light on the subject: 'Millers in Germany have been in troublous waters lately. The recent period of inflation has been the ruin of some of them. It did appear at one time that the position was somewhat rosy for the millers, but disaster followed disaster and at the end of the financial period, there were very few mills with balances on the right side...The milling industry had hoped that after their profitless trading during the period that the trade was under control, some compensation would be forthcoming, but they were simply turned adrift at a time when competition from other countries was very keen. The flour importers, of course, were able to profit on the exchange values, and they also speculated to a great extent, making it necessary to auction the accumulations of imported flour at regular intervals. The German millers also contend that the Reichsgetreidestelle's economic policy hindered both commerce and industry, and instead of removing this department, the Government subsidized it recently to the extent of 40,000,000 rentenmarks. As an instance of its doubtful value to the milling trade at a time when the supply of home-grown cereals was insufficient for home consumption, instead of the Reichsgetreidestelle purchasing foreign grain, they bought up considerable quantities of the home crop and accumulated it in stores. The effect was that the prices of cereals shot up and consumption also had to be rationed. To make this more ludicrous, it was found that some of the grain had been destroyed through being stored in a wet condition....'"

Grain Shipments

The press of September 25 states that grain is passing through the Port of New York at the rate of about 500,000 bushels a day, according to the figures of the Car Service Division of the American Railway Association. Recent estimates put the amount of grain in the Port of New York, including that in elevators, afloat and on tracks, at more than 4,000,000 bushels, or an eight-day supply. Carloads are arriving at the rate of about 400 a day. Railway executives said yesterday that this movement, while probably the largest for any port in America, did not take into account the large amount which was going through Montreal, Philadelphia, Baltimore and a number of the southern ports. In Buffalo, for example, there is, according to figures for the week of Sept. 17, 7,000,000 bushels of American and 2,400,000 bushels of Canadian wheat, and 2,300,000 bushels held in vessels. According to the report of the Car Service Division there are still plenty of cars available for the movement of grain.

Grape Culture in Florida

The Florida Times-Union for September 23 says: "Among the many industries as yet barely touched in Florida that of growing grapes for the market is very alluring. Within the past few years some experiments have been undertaken with 'bunch grapes,' and the results are such as to give great satisfaction wherever they have been tried. But there are other grapes that grow in the State, almost without any effort on the part of the growers, and

they are saleable and in demand. The Levy County News recently discussing a grape that has brought some money into that section, said: 'It will be a source of considerable surprise even to our people to know that each train leaving Bronson for the South and East every morning carries an express cargo of hundreds of baskets of Scuppernong grapes for which there is a commanding market. These grapes are shipped by Robert Seed, the recent purchaser of the Haffle place, two miles south of Bronson, and is the source of a considerable income that can easily be enlarged to a prominent business. There are no better grapes anywhere than the Scuppernong, being prolific, easily cultivated, practically vermin proof and needs least attention of any vine; the arbor enlarging year by year. There is no more appropriate soil or climate anywhere better adapted to this native grape than in Levy County, and of which thousands of acres could be sold to advantage to both, grower and consumer...' Cultivation of the Scuppernong should be encouraged. The price demanded and obtained on the market in Florida is such as to make it a paying proposition for these who undertake the production and sale. The price indicates a great demand over present production."

Livestock Freight Rates

An editorial in Western Breeders Journal for September 18 says: "A number of livestock freight rate cases are being pressed at the present time in an effort to establish reasonable freight rates in the Northwest. These cases are conducted by the Northwestern Livestock Shippers Traffic League, with other livestock organizations, before the Department of Public Works of the State of Washington, the Public Service Commission of the State of Oregon, and the Interstate Commerce Commission. This is the first time that effort has been made to work out a broad, comprehensive and equitable system of livestock freight rates in the Northwest. The present rates are carrier-made, are full of maladjustments, and are entirely out of line with livestock freight rates in other parts of the country where conditions are even less conducive to economical transportation than in the Northwest. The Traffic League, we think, has adopted the only workable policy in thus going over the ground thoroughly. To attack the problem piecemeal would accomplish nothing. The method adopted is really constructive, and is most likely to prove successful."

Sugar Tariff

The Journal of Commerce for September 26 says: "Prospects of poor domestic crops of sugar beets and sugar cane as reflected in Government reports were seen here September 25 as further complicating the question of a reduction in the duty on sugar now before President Coolidge. This situation is expected to come up for attention when Mr. Coolidge consults Secretary Wallace on the sugar tariff, as is the plan of the President, according to expressions at the White House. Mr. Wallace, it is believed, may throw an entirely new light on the sugar tariff problem, despite the concerted movement by farm organizations in opposition to any reduction in the rate of duty. The factor of domestic supply, it is thought, may become involved in the decision on the tariff because of the unfavorable tone of the latest reports to the Agricultural Department on the cane and beet crops.... Now, however, with Government reports indicating a bad year, for both cane and beets, the belief is felt in

some quarters that the President may be compelled to see the sugar tariff problem from a different point of view than a month or so ago. An appreciable reduction in the domestic output of sugar, it is thought, may have a marked supply to measure heavily in meeting the high consumption demand for sugar in this country. In the event of domestic production falling to a low ebb the necessity would arise, it is pointed out, for increased importations from Cuba to make up the deficit. Under such circumstances it is felt the tariff would play a more important part in the price situation than it would with plentiful domestic production and hence the administration might be required to look at the sugar tariff from a broader aspect than from the standpoint of protection for the agricultural interests."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 26: Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.40 for the top and \$9.10 to \$10.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$6.75 to \$10.75; butcher cows and heifers \$3.35 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.75 to \$7.75; light and medium weight veal calves \$9.50 to \$12.50; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.40; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

Long Island bulk Cobbler potatoes and Green Mountains \$1.40-1.50 in New York Eastern Shore Virginia yellow varieties of sweet potatoes closed at \$3.50 to \$5.25 per barrel, top of \$6 in Chicago. New York and Midwestern yellow onions \$1.50-\$2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.40 to \$1.65 f.o.b. New York domestic type cabbage \$10 to \$15 bulk per ton in eastern markets; \$8 to \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Elberta peaches \$1.75 to \$3 per bushel basket and six basket carrier in eastern markets \$1.75 to \$2 f.o.b. Illinois and Missouri Jonathan apples \$6.50-7.50 in Chicago. Northwestern Greenings \$4.50-5.00 per barrel in New York.

Closing wholesale prices on 92 score butter: New York 37 1/2¢; Chicago 35 1/2¢; Philadelphia 38 1/4¢; Boston 37 1/2¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 24: Flats 21 1/4¢; Twins 20 3/4¢; Single Daisies 21¢; Double Daisies 20 3/4¢; Young Americas 22¢; Longhorns 22 1/4¢; Square Prints 23¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 26: No. 1 dark northern spring Minneapolis \$1.37 to \$1.55. No. 2 red winter wheat St. Louis \$1.48. No. 3 red winter wheat Kansas City \$1.36 to \$1.39. No. 2 hard winter wheat Chicago \$1.35 3/4 to \$1.36 1/4; St. Louis \$1.36 to \$1.37; Kansas City \$1.27 to \$1.34. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.09 1/4 to \$1.10 1/2; Minneapolis \$1.03 1/2 to \$1.04. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.09 1/2 to \$1.11; Minneapolis \$1.05 1/2 to \$1.06; St. Louis \$1.11. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.08 to \$1.09 3/4; Minneapolis \$1.04 1/2 to \$1.05. No. 3 white oats Chicago 48 to 48 1/2 cents; Minneapolis 45 cents; St. Louis 49 to 50 cents; Kansas City 48 1/2 cents. No. 3 white corn Kansas City \$1.07 1/2 Chicago \$1.08 1/4 to \$1.09 1/4.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 131 points, closing at 24.50¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 142 points, closing at 25.90¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 26,	Sept. 25,	Sept. 26, 1923
	20 Industrials	103.98	104.13	88.53
	20 R.R. stocks	90.35	90.51	78.86

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 27.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 76

Section 1

29
September 29, 1924

Chicago Packer Controversy

A Chicago dispatch to the press of September 28 says: "Refusal of packers to buy what they call 'refilled' hogs has brought on a controversy between them and traders at the stockyards. The traders have filed a complaint with the Federal Department of Agriculture charging that the packers have violated the Packers and Stockyards act by discriminating against them. The packers, whose representatives say they have ceased buying from the traders, whom they term 'speculators,' charge that the 'speculator' performs no economic service. They allege that the traders, buying hogs in the morning, feed them on corn and water and about 11 A.M. throw them on the market. The packers assert they may buy from whom they choose and that they can not be accused of discrimination. Everett C. Brown, president of the Chicago Live Stock Association, said that 'if the traders are eliminated, which evidently is the intention of the big packers, then fully 40 per cent of the buying power on the Chicago market will be eliminated.'"

Cotton Price

A London dispatch to the press to-day says: "The sharp advance in cotton, following the latest American bureau report, has restricted the textile business and reduced the demand from spinners. A larger trade in cotton goods will certainly not be done until there is greater stability in prices."

Ocean Freight

The Philadelphia Ledger to-day says: "Buoyed up by continued strength in grain offerings, the ocean freight market has maintained its status of the last three weeks. All trade routes from this port are showing greater bookings, particularly the United Kingdom and Continent services. While no upward movement is announced in rates by conference lines, and brokers report there is still some space available in all trades, the lines are more confident of the growth of traffic for the next few months than they have been since last spring. Contributing to a better inward movement from the United Kingdom is the interest of local houses in the London wool sales. Improvement in the political situation in Brazil, approximating normal as far as shipping is concerned, again opens the possibility of this port breaking last year's receipts of coffee. The lumber movement from the Pacific Coast is started in earnest, inter-coastal lines reporting also a better volume of westbound general cargo. The United Kingdom and Continent trades are still leaders in point of activity, grain, flour and oil constituting the greater part of most cargoes. Indications point toward a revival of interest in the Mediterranean routes within the next few weeks. ...That the grain trade will continue to seek for tonnage for the balance of the year seems to be supported by reports of a crop shortage in European countries. The reparations settlement has improved the financial position of the foreign buyer and America is apparently the cheapest market. Already a number of ships have been fixed for December, and berth engagements have been made well beyond that time into next year, indicating that shippers either have business to move in the future or anticipate it coming."

Section 2

Butter Storage
Surplus

An editorial in The Pacific Dairy Review for September 18 says: "The biggest thing in the minds of those identified with the dairy industry at the present time is the 53,000,000 pounds of butter in cold storage in excess of the amount stored during any previous year. Now that amount of butter is not a big lot, measured in terms of the butter we produce in this country. It is less than half a pound for every inhabitant of the country. But sometimes a small thing in the wrong place, looms up mighty big. In case of the storage of butter it is that much more than is needed for the good of the industry. It represents surplus. ... That is what has placed the butter trade all over the country in the most uncomfortable position it has experienced in a number of years. The burden of the trade is entirely in the hands of the butter dealers, the manufacturers of the dairymen who produce the milk. The buyer is in a position to stand by and look on, confident that prices will not advance and so he buys from hand-to-mouth. And while this surplus remains frozen in the storage houses the cows throughout the country, except in some parts where drought conditions prevail, continue to roll out the milk. With feed lasting well into the fall and plenty of hay for liberal winter feeding, especially in the East, there is little hope for any advances for several months to come. The problem can only be solved by making prices that will move this big lot of butter into consumption. Export it to Europe, if possible. The price may hurt, but so does an operation and the sooner we get rid of the abnormality the quicker will we recover from it."

Cotton

There will be far less "distress" cotton on the market this year than heretofore, according to Senator Dial, of South Carolina, who bases this prediction upon what he declares to be the apparent willingness of the banks to aid the cotton farmer and the increasing activities of the cotton cooperative associations. Greater amounts of cotton will be stored this year, he adds, greater aid being tendered the farmers because of the fact that present prices are declared by the farmers to be 6 cents to 7 cents per pound under the cost of production. (Press, Sept. 27.)

Crop Diversifi-
cation

The Wall Street Journal for September 27 says: "An investigation is being conducted by the Federal Reserve Bank at Dallas throughout its district to ascertain whether or not the farmers are raising a proper proportion of food and feed crops. In other words, it wants to know if the Eleventh Reserve District is afflicted with our all too prevalent one-crop obsession. As Texas is obliged to import food and feedstuffs the presumption is that it is raising a disproportionate quantity of cotton. Only a little travel over the State would satisfy anybody that too much of the land is being planted to cotton in proportion to other crops. Most of the cotton of Texas is raised in a section possessing a soil of remarkable fertility. With such a soil an average yield much larger than that of some other States might be expected. Official records, however, show that in the five years between 1918 and 1922 Texas averaged 131 pounds to the acre, or about 1 bale to 3.7 acres of land. This year, owing to drought, the yield will probably average 1 bale to 4 acres. This represents

what Texas, with its rich soil, has been and is doing. Now see what it is capable of doing. In the office of the Morning News of Dallas there recently hung a cotton stalk which carried 136 matured bolls, or about 8 times as many as the average. Good judges say that the 5-acre field from which this stalk was pulled will average 2 bales of cotton to the acre. Of course, this represents intensive farming, but at this rate 2,000,000 acres in Texas would produce as much as will be picked this year from the 16,000,000 acres now planted. Five million acres in the whole Cotton Belt would equal the 40,000,000 acres supposed to be cultivated now. It might not be possible to cultivate 2,000,000 acres in Texas as intensively as the 5 acres referred to. That is not the point at all. Those 5 acres prove that not only Texas but all the Cotton Belt does not yield anything like its possibilities. It would seem as if a somewhat smaller acreage might be planted to cotton, with results more profitable to the farmer, while he would also have the necessary land for raising his needed food and feed crops. Running to one crop eventually means soil exhaustion. It matters not whether it is cotton or wheat or anything else; the result is the same. The Federal Reserve of the Dallas District will be doing a good work if it can impress this fact upon the farmers of its district."

Fig. Culture

The Florida Times-Union of September 25 says: "Florida ought to be producing enormously of figs. Here and there fig orchards are to be found, although they are not extensive in area. The Elizabeth City North Carolina Independent recently told of a fig-growing industry that has been established on Roanoke Island, in the waters of the eastern section of that State. Prediction is made that soon it will be known as 'The Island of Figs.' A corporation has been formed, and now 'has enough growing trees, which, bearing at the present rate, would in two years produce figs for preserving purposes, with a wholesale value of over half a million dollars a year,' to quote the North Carolina newspaper. The Charlotte Observer summarizes the rather extended article in the Elizabeth City Independent and says that the Roanoke Island fig orchard to-day 'is producing preserved figs from its two-year-old trees that have been tested by the largest distributors in the country, and found equal to anything on the market. ...'"

France to Buy Foreign Wheat

A Paris dispatch to the press of September 27 states that France will be forced to import wheat and finance her operations with the depreciated franc, according to present indications. For this wheat she will have to go to the only countries which have an exportable surplus: Australia, Argentina and the United States.

Germans Buying Apples

A Portland, Ore., dispatch to the press of September 27 states that Hamburg, Germany, buyers are absorbing huge quantities of Oregon and Washington apples at leading Pacific Northwest shipping points. The Northwest apple crop this season is normal in quality and almost average in quantity. Higher prices will be received by producers this year than in 1923.

Grain Acreage in The Price Current-Grain Reporter for September 24 says:
North Dakota "North Dakota Agricultural College shows that the State has reduced its grain acreage 2,733,000 acres since 1919, last year's total being 8,402,000 acres. The college survey shows that diversified farming has absorbed almost all of the decrease; dairying, hogs, flax, potatoes, corn, tame hay, feed crops. The college reports say that this is the result of a determined effort of the farmer to better his condition, and that it is markedly successful. Without national wheat legislation the farmers are solving their own problem of better returns and are doing it on a business basis rather than on a legislated makeshift foundation."

Livestock
Marketing

National Stockman and Farmer for September 22 says: "Cooperative shipping organizations are selling livestock direct to packers and are preparing to increase the volume of direct shipments. In this they are doing just what other shippers do and what anyone has a perfect right to do at any time. The movement of livestock from the farm or the local station to the packing house has been steadily growing for some years, both by the country buying of the packers and by the efforts of sellers to arrange for direct shipments. How far this movement can go with benefit to producers is a question. When the packers go to the country and skim the cream off the beef crop there must be some reason for their action, since they usually pay full market prices or better. But do they pay what would be the market level if all cattle were sent to market and all slaughterers had to compete for them there? We doubt it but we don't know. If we thought we knew that the price level would be more favorable to producers with all buyers in competition at the market place we couldn't prove it. And if we could prove it the country buying of packers and the country selling of producers would probably go right on. Should this movement go so far as to impair the price-making agency, the open market, it would be to the disadvantage of producers. Some students of the business think it has gone that far already so far as cattle are concerned, that the basic price level would be more favorable to producers if all cattle went to market. But there is no sign of any reaction toward universal market selling and buying. Whatever happens is not likely to be disastrous, even if it proves costly, for business can be trusted to correct its own mistakes in the course of time."

Wheat Quality

The Price Current-Grain Reporter for September 24 says: "A campaign is now under way in Oklahoma to restore the virgin high quality of hard wheat. Several agencies are actively cooperating, among those mentioned being the Oklahoma Millers' League, the Southwestern Wheat Improvement Association, and the State Board of Agriculture. This also should be an opportunity for the elevator interests of the State to offer their facilities and service in the campaign. It is a vital problem with the millers as their very existence depends upon an adequate supply of high milling quality wheat. Although elevator interests have not such a compelling reason for entering actively in the campaign, they will ultimately suffer losses in business as well as the miller from the running-out of good wheat and the introduction of mongrel types. Poor wheat seed invariably results in lower yields of poor quality."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

For the week ended September 27: - In eastern wholesale fresh meat markets beef ranged from \$1 lower to 50¢ lower; veal weak to \$2 lower; lamb and pork loins \$1 lower to \$1 higher and mutton \$2 lower to \$2 higher.

New Jersey Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at \$1.25 to \$1.35 sacked per 100 pounds in New York and Philadelphia, top of \$1.55 in Pittsburgh; mostly \$1.15 f.o.b. New York cabbage steady in New York, \$3 lower in other eastern cities. Domestic type sold generally at \$10 to \$15 bulk per ton in city markets; \$8 to \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Onion markets weak. New York and midwestern yellow varieties mostly \$1.50 to \$2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.35 to \$1.65 f.o.b. Midwestern Jonathan apples \$1.75 to \$2.25 per bushel basket in the Middle West. New York Elberta peaches weakened in leading markets to \$1.75 to \$3 per six-basket carrier and bushel basket; \$1.65 to \$1.85 f.o.b. Rochester.

Butter markets somewhat steadier and firmer especially on fancy butter after a week of unsettled trading. Some storage butter beginning to move, although active movement held back on account of current prices being below cost prices at time butter was stored. Cheese markets barely steady and trading higher in volume a week ago. Weather conditions have been favorable for both quality and quantity production, and prediction in Wisconsin has held up well for season.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 250 points during the week, closing at 24.16¢ per lb. New York October future contracts advanced 285 points, closing at 25.40¢.

Grain market nervous, closing strong. Wheat futures up 6 to 7¢ for week account unfavorable weather in Canada and good export demand. New high crop for year. Corn up sharply from sag on strength in wheat and forecast of frost in part of Corn Belt, closing 3 to 5¢ higher for week. (Prepared by Bu. of Agri. Econ.)

Industrials and	Average closing price	Sept. 27,	Sept. 26,	Sept. 27, 1923
Railroads	20 Industrials	103.93	103.98	88.53
	20 R.R. stocks	90.55	90.35	79.05

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 29.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XIV, no. 77

Section 1

September 30, 1924

President Coolidge In a letter to Herbert Wilson Smith of Washington, read on Reclamation last evening to the annual convention of the American Mining Congress, in session at Sacramento, Calif., President Coolidge expressed the belief that while the enormous holdings of gold in this country were calculated to depress production, our stocks would be drawn upon to meet the needs of other countries as soon as the gold standard was again generally in operation. The President linked the mining industry of the West with the development of water power in that section, suggesting that it was necessary to the rehabilitation of production of monetary metals. Referring to "some minor criticism" of the policy of "our unremitting development of these projects by those who have thought we were already overproducing in agricultural products," and "who feel that these projects should be staked until agricultural production has readjusted itself," the President maintained, among other things, that "these criticisms lie in the lack of understanding that these projects take many years for development." (Press, Sept. 30)

Agricultural Credit Cooperation The Agricultural Credit Corporation, organized last February on initiative of President Coolidge as a method of relieving agricultural distress in the Northwest, has been so successful in improving the banking situation in that territory it has broadened its activities to include aid in farm diversification. This was announced yesterday in a letter from C. T. Jaffray, chairman of the corporation's board, to Secretary Mellon. To date the corporation has assisted 230 banks with loans aggregating more than \$5,000,000. Mr. Jaffray informed the Secretary that deposits in these institutions amounted to approximately \$53,000,000, and he believed it safe to assume that by aid thus extended the number of bank failures in the Northwest had been checked and at least \$25,000,000 of depositors' money had been safeguarded. Mr. Jaffray also said the spirit of the people in the territory affected had been revived and a great measure of confidence restored. (Press, Sept. 30)

Potash Agreement Details of the Franco-German potash agreement were made public yesterday by the French Bureau of Information in the United States. The agreement, which is between French and German producers, affects deliveries to this country for a period of three years. It provides, in principle, that the Alsatian mines will supply 37.5 per cent and the German mines 62.5 per cent of their total potash deliveries to this country. As regards sulphates, however, Germany will supply 35,000 tons and Alsace only 5,000. This preferential treatment granted to Germany for sulphates raises her percentage to 68.8, while Alsace's is reduced to 31.2. (Press, Sept. 30)

Section 2

Business Outlook A Chicago dispatch to the press of September²⁸ states that improved agricultural conditions, the beneficial effect of the Dawes plan, and satisfactory manufacturing conditions are cited as reasons for optimism regarding the country's immediate future, by a number of representative bankers, from different sections of the country, who are gathering at Chicago to attend the fiftieth annual convention of the American Bankers Association. Walter W. Head, of Omaha, Neb., president of the American Bankers Association, said: "While a boom in business is not likely at this time, I anticipate a steady improvement in general business conditions. The marked advance in prices of farm products, particularly corn, wheat and hogs, gives promise of renewed agricultural prosperity -- for the first time since 1920. This will materially increase the purchasing power of those engaged in agriculture -- a number greater than one-fourth of our population. This in turn will increase the demand for manufactured products, the natural result of which will be a quickening of trade and industry throughout the country. We will probably profit also by partial anticipation of the improved foreign market expected as a result of the tendency towards political and economic stability in Europe. The results of the Dawes program may not be entirely apparent for some time, but merchants and financiers will be inclined to accept the promise -- in part at least -- without waiting for actual fulfillment."

George E. Roberts, vice president, The National City Bank, New York, said: "The outlook for business this fall and for next summer is very satisfactory. Conditions are more favorable to stability and general prosperity than at any time in recent years. The rise of prices of farm products gives reason for hope that the depression which has affected the great body of people on the farms has passed and probably will not return. The last few months have furnished a demonstration that the prices of farm products have been weighed down by a comparatively small surplus, and with the restoration of normal industrial conditions in Europe the increased demand from that quarter, together with the increasing demand of our own growing population, will maintain a higher level of prices hereafter. The banking situation is very strong, and the country is accumulating capital sufficient for a vast amount of development work at home, and also to supply anticipated foreign demands. The acceptance of the Dawes plan for the reparation settlement gives promise that industry will be quickened all over the world, and that the course of social and industrial progress, which was interrupted by the war, is about to be fully resumed."

Alvin P. Howard, vice president of the Hibernia Bank & Trust Co., New Orleans, La., said: "Generally speaking, the South should be prosperous, with a cotton crop of indicated sizable proportion and a fair price, considering the cost of production, but the South is always 'bullish' on cotton, and many feel that the recent declines in price are not justified. The cotton mill industry is not in satisfactory shape and has not been for some time past. How far this condition will be changed by advantageous buying of the new crop and the economies that have already become effective, is a matter of

management. The wholesale distributors of cotton goods have been finding difficulty in making a profitable turnover, and since they are between the mill and the retailer, it is difficult to predict what the future has in store for them. At any rate, things could not be more unfavorable than they have been during the past twelve months."

C. W. Allendoerfer, vice president of the First National Bank, Kansas City, Mo., said: "The financial situation in Kansas has been wonderfully improved during the last few months as a result of the excellent crops we have had. The marketing of wheat has already resulted in complete liquidation of a large volume of obligations held by country banks and accounts with country merchants. The country banks and country merchants have in turn paid off what they owe. It is practically certain that corn and cotton over a large part of this territory will produce abundant yields, which should further increase the amount of excess bank reserves now on hand. Merchants and manufacturers report an increase in business, which looks as though it would continue for several months. Up to date, no symptoms of undue expansion or speculation have been evident."

Cotton

The Wall Street Journal for September 29 says: "On September 26 October cotton reached 25.90. This contrasts with 21.50, the lowest price made in the life of that contract, reached September 16. This marks the shattering of the 13,000,000-bale forecast. Had that 13,000,000-bale promise held it is probable that crop, taken together with poor demand, would have swept all cotton futures below 20 cents. On the day of the official forecast of 12,787,000 bales, September 8, following the previous figure of 12,956,000, The Wall Street Journal estimated the crop at 12,000,000 bales, or to be specific 11,980,000. It is a fact that the physical appearance of the cotton plant over the belt as a whole might well have justified a forecast larger than the official figure. But straw is not wheat nor are cotton stalks bolls. This newspaper was not trying to show how pretty the plants looked, but to estimate the actual output of lint cotton. ... Each day from this time on should make clearer to the market view that there is no bumper crop to be picked this season."

Florida Roads

In an editorial on "Florida Highways and Federal Aid," The Florida Times-Union for September 26, says: "... This Federal aid has been, and continues to be, of immense benefit to Florida. If the people of this State were compelled to furnish every dollar of the money needed for improved road construction, very much of the work that is being done could not be accomplished because of the financial inability to carry the load. People of Florida have been very generous in voting money for improved highway construction; they ought to be just as generous in voting funds for improved highway maintenance, for unless the roads are kept constantly repaired they will deteriorate very rapidly, which means reconstruction, at an enormous cost, within comparatively few years. Roads are being built better than they were in former years. This is very commendable, but there is reason to believe that in some instances proper attention is not paid to improved road maintenance. Repairs are not made as promptly as they should be made, and, with the neglect, the deterioration

proceeds very rapidly. This means increased expenditures when the roads become so bad that repairs absolutely are necessary. Thus the money of taxpayers is wasted. This should not be permitted under any circumstances, even if money must be borrowed to make necessary repairs when they should be made, and not after the damage is so extensive as to require the expenditure of enormous amounts of money to put the roads back in good condition. This matter of road repairs is one that should receive careful and constant attention. The Federal Government can not be expected to do more than help to provide the original improved highways; maintenance and repairs constitute a local liability. How great that liability shall be depends entirely on the State and the counties having jurisdiction over the public highways."

Grain Marketing Company

The Price Current-Grain Reporter for September 24 says: "The country papers have been full of articles on the Grain Marketing Company, some indorsing and others condemning this latest cooperative move. Officers of some of the farmers' cooperative elevator associations have been against the proposition as have the promoters of the wheat pools. Farm bureau federations have favored the proposition. It is hard for any movement to succeed unless all factions are harmonized and in one accord. The Grain Marketing Company will succeed as long as it is under the present management, but what will happen if cooperative promoters should secure control, is hard to say. Any grain marketing agency, whether it is operated by private individuals or cooperatively owned must be maintained and carried on along strict business lines and render a distinct service, to succeed. As the farmers have long wanted to market their grain at terminals here is their opportunity to demonstrate the feasibility of this plan. It would seem that all interested in cooperative marketing should pull together and prove out that it can be done. It is hardly good grace on the part of some leaders to take the antagonistic stand they have without better reasons for so doing. Now that the company is a reality, give it an opportunity."

Sugar Tariff

An editorial in The Wisconsin Agriculturist for September 20 says: "A strong protest against lowering the tariff rate on imported sugar has been forwarded to the Tariff Commission and to the President by the American Farm Bureau. The International Farm Congress has also made a vigorous protest against any reduction on sugar and scores of letters and telegrams from sugar beet farmers have poured into the White House. ... Many growers rely on beets as their chief cash crop. Money from beets comes at a time of year when it is most welcome. The industry is important and growing, consequently tariff protection is an absolute necessity, otherwise the cane sugar industry would quickly put American sugar beet growers out of business. ... Beet growers are quite within their rights in organizing against any such attack and in asking the President to protect their industry."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

September 30: - Chicago hog prices closed at \$10.70 for the top; \$9.40 to \$10.40 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers \$7 to \$10.85; butcher cows and heifers \$3.35 to \$10.50; feeder steers \$4.90 to \$7.75; light and medium weight veal calves \$9.50 to \$12.25; fat lambs \$11.25 to \$13.40; feeding lambs \$11 to \$13.25; yearlings \$7.75 to \$10.25; fat ewes \$3.50 to \$6.75.

New Jersey Irish Cobbler potatoes closed \$1.35 to \$1.50 sacked per 100 lbs. Long Island Cobblers and Green Mountains bulk \$1.45 to \$.55 in New York. Sweet potatoes, Eastern Shore Virginia yellow varieties ranged \$3.50 to \$5 per bbl.; top of \$5.75 in Chicago. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.75 to \$1.85 per bu. hamper in Cincinnati and Chicago. New York domestic type cabbage mostly \$12 to \$16 bulk per ton in city markets; \$7 to \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and midwestern yellow variety onions sold at \$1.50 to \$2 sacked per 100 lbs. in consuming centers; \$1.35 to \$1.60 f.o.b. Apples, New York Wealthys, \$1.15 to \$1.30 per bu. basket in eastern cities; \$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester.

Closing prices, 92 score butter: New York 38¢; Chicago 35 1/2¢; Boston 38¢; Philadelphia 39¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 27: Twins 20 3/4¢; Daisies 21¢; Double Daisies 20 1/2¢; Longhorns 22 1/4¢; Square Prints 22 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 29: No. 3 red winter Chicago \$1.42. No. 2 hard winter St. Louis \$1.37 1/2. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago \$1.11 1/2 to \$1.12. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago \$1.12 1/4 to \$1.13. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago \$1.10 3/4 to \$1.11 3/4; St. Louis \$1.11. No. 3 white corn Chicago \$1.11 to \$1.11 3/4; St. Louis \$1.12. No. 3 white oats Chicago 48 1/2 to 49 1/4¢; St. Louis 49 to 50¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 46 points, closing at 24.62¢ per lb.; New York October future contracts advanced 40 points, closing at 25.80¢ per lb. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	Sept. 29,	Sept. 27,	Sept. 29, 1923
	20 Industrials	102.96	103.93	87.89
	20 R.R. stocks	89.99	90.55	78.33
(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 30.)				

